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AN IDYL OF HARMONY ROW.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY CALEB DUNN.

In Harmony Row—let me see: I remember
It was many, aye, many a long year ago—
One night in the holiday-week of December,
When the sounds of the street were all muffled by snow.
The lamps on the mantle seemed burning as brightly
As the rich chandeliers that gleamed over the way
In the marble abods where Old Bullion's folks nightly
Gave receptions to people they called *distingue*.

The carpets were plain, and the curtains, all faded,
Were as old as grandmother, who sat by the stove,
Her eyes with her rusty-bowed spectacles shaded,
And her cheeks quite as red as if kindled by love;
And there were Katie's nicely-dressed father and mother,
Their eyes full as bright as the gleam of a tear,
And there was her sister, and there was her brother,
And yet still one other, who to me was more dear.

There, too, were some friends, honest children of labor,
The matron beloved, the young sweetheart and beau,
The butcher and tailor and every good neighbor
Who lived with Katie's people in Harmony Row.
Not a forehead was shaded, not a look that was sinister
On any face present could anyone see,
As the gray-headed, warm-hearted, good-natured minister
Stood saying some words to my Katie and me.

Some words! You can guess what they were by him spoken,
When I tell you that after the service was o'er
On one of her fingers—a pledge and a token—
Kate showed a gold ring never worn there before.
There was shaking of hands, there were kindest of wishes,
There were kisses for Katie from dear ones I know,
And there were a bustle and a clatter of dishes,
And a happy ovation in Harmony Row.

And just when the festival joy was completed
The minister whispered and called me aside:
"The happiness," said he, "that's dearest and sweetest
Is the love and the hope in the heart of your bride.
Be true to your vow though temptations importune,
And that love and that hope to fruition shall grow,
Till some day, rewarded by favoring fortune,
You may be the sole owner of Harmony Row."

In our hair there are now streaks of gray, yet still linger
In memory those words that the minister spake,
And Katie, my treasure, still shows on her finger
That plain golden ring she still wears for my sake.
The sky has been cloudy at times, and of sadness
We've tasted, as all of Earth's people must do,
Yet our lives have had far less of sorrow than gladness,
And we cannot complain, for we've nothing to rue.

We have houses and lands, we have pictures and treasures
That came from far climes that we never have seen;
We have children to love us and share in our pleasures,
We have friends who to us ever faithful have been.
Her love and her hope to the fullest expansion
Have grown as the minister said they would grow,
And we live with our own in a beautiful mansion
That stands on the site of old Harmony Row.

ONE NIGHT'S CRIME;
OR,
A FATAL PASSION.
(LA FILLE MAUDITE.)

ADAPTED FROM THE FRENCH OF EMILE RICHEBOURG, FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY DUDLEY WINTHROP MOORE.

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PART THE SECOND.—OLD MARDOCHE.

CHAPTER XIII.—PARISEL SENIOR.

After dinner Blanche went up to her room, for she felt the need of being alone with her thoughts. What changes had taken place in her during the past three days! She had suddenly lost her innocence, yet life appeared brighter to her; it seemed to her that she had just discovered a new world. She still loved flowers, but they no longer spoke the same language to her heart. The verdure, so beautiful in the month of June, still delighted her eyes; the songs of the joyous birds still charmed her ears; but in looking and listening she felt saddened, and wept without knowing why. In his never-ceasing solicitude Rouvenat had seen all this, but without conjecturing anything as yet. Parisel senior had followed Jacques Mellier to his room.

"Now," said the father of Handsome Francois, "if you are willing, my cousin, we'll have a talk."

"Very well, Parisel, let us talk. What have you to say to me? I don't imagine you came to Seuillon merely to see your son. Do you need more money?"

"Aye, aye! when one isn't rich, a little more money is always acceptable. I already owe you quite a large sum, my excellent cousin—however, if you could conveniently spare it, a thousand-franc bill would give me great pleasure to-day."

"Very well, you shall have it."

"That's at least something pocketed," thought Parisel.

"Is that all you had to say to me?" asked Mellier.

"I was reserving that for the end; but you made me begin with it, my dear cousin. I wish to talk with you about Francois. He's a well-built fellow, isn't he, eh?"

"Yes, he is quite robust."

"A rook, Cousin Mellier, a regular rook. Such fellows live for a hundred years. Tell me, are you satisfied with him?"

"You must ask Rouvenat that."

Parisel made a hideous grimace.

"I know what my boy is worth," he resumed; "he's a worker, a regular draught-horse, and withal not a little ambitious, with a will of iron. When he makes up his mind to do a thing, you can depend upon it that thing must be done or something must break. In fine, he's intelligent and clever; he soon acquainted himself with the affairs of the farm, and he knows enough about them now to be able to take Pierre Rouvenat's place."

"A man like Rouvenat can never be replaced," said Mellier sharply.

"Oh, assuredly not! But you know we are all mortals, and misfortune comes so suddenly."

"Rouvenat is in excellent health; he is solid on his legs, and still has a strong arm and good eye. You may calm yourself, Parisel; my old Rouvenat has no desire to die; I'll go off before he does."

"Yes, my cousin; but it's useless for you to talk. Rouvenat is growing old; and were it only for himself, there ought to be someone here to relieve and assist him at times by assuming his authority."

"Rouvenat finds that he is sufficiently assisted; he has plenty of men on whom he can rely, for he chose them himself. I refer to your son as well as to the others, Parisel."

"Yes, I understand. But Francois is something more than the rest. Mons. Rouvenat cannot prevent his being a relative of yours, Cousin Mellier."

"Certainly not; and I am sure he does not forget it."

"Be it so. But I come back to my idea: I say that it is necessary to allow Francois a part of the management of the farm; it would be advantageous to all concerned."

"Rouvenat is very jealous of his authority, which he owes to his faithful services," replied the old man, shaking his head. "I do not see the means ——"

"There's a very simple one, my cousin," broke in Parisel. "Blanche is old enough to marry, and Francois is dying of love for her."

"Ah!" said Jacques, moving uneasily in his chair.

"You understand—a good marriage."

"Yes, if Blanche wishes."

"When a young girl reaches the age of nineteen, she is always desirous of marrying."

"The man that pleases her," added the farmer sententiously.

"Francois is quite a handsome fellow, it seems to me."

"That does not always suffice; moreover, I do not know what Blanche's ideas are on the subject. In any case, Rouvenat is the one to must speak to about this important matter."

"Rouvenat! Rouvenat!" said Parisel, with undisguised spite. "So, so, my cousin, Rouvenat disposes of everything here!"

"My old friend is everything at Seuillon."

"But Seuillon belongs to you; you are the master," rejoined Parisel, scarcely able to restrain his rage.

"I?" said Mellier coldly. "I am no longer anything!"

"Sluggish old fool!" said Parisel to himself, rolling his eyes wildly, "how I'd like to wring his neck!" Then aloud, resuming his wheedling tone: "Come, my dear cousin, let's examine the question. You don't want to die, I imagine, before assuring Blanche's future, either by giving her a marriage portion or by making a will in her favor?"

"I shall make no will," said Mellier gruffly.

Parisel's eyes sparkled with joy.

"Which proves you to be a good and honest relative," he went on. "After you, your fortune ought to go to your direct heirs; that's justice. I am one of those heirs, my cousin. Now, if Blanche marries Francois you need no longer be uneasy as to her lot; you may even make her a little present, without anyone's objecting to it, and which would enable Francois to go on with the cultivation of Seuillon; for the farm must not pass into strange hands."

Mellier's face had darkened.

"I shall see in proper time what I ought to do for Blanche," he said in a hollow voice. "But your mind dwells a little too much on my inheritance, Parisel."

"Now, don't you get it into your head that I desire your death," replied the latter quickly.

"My dear Parisel, my death would do you but little good."

The countryman looked at the old man with amazement, murmuring:

"Then you have made a will, after all?"

"I told you that I should not make any: but you forget my daughter."

"Lucile?"

"Yes, Lucile Mellier"

"But she is dead!"

The old man seemed to recover a little of his force and energy of bygone days. He sprang to his feet, drew himself up, his body trembling nervously, his eyes flaming, and cried in a vibrating voice:

"What do you know about it?"

Then, uttering a deep groan, he fell back, panting, into his seat. Parisel seemed struck with consternation.

"Lucile dead, dead!" murmured the old farmer, speaking to himself. "But no; nothing proves it. I am waiting, I'll continue to wait; I must not die!"

A strange smile passed over Parisel's lips.

"The old fellow is surely falling into his dotage!" he thought. "Thunder! but he frightened me all the same!"

Mellier remained motionless, crushed beneath the weight of his misfortune.

"My dear cousin," resumed Parisel in a pathetic tone, "I regret having pronounced the name that reminds you of the happy days of the past. You are well aware that I have always shared your grief. I, too, thought for a long time that the dear child would return."

A bitter smile shriveled Jacques' lips.

"Lackaday!" continued Parisel, making an effort to raise a tear that was obstinately bent on not appearing, "nineteen years have worn away; there is no more hope."

"No more hope," repeated Mellier dolefully.

"Pugh!" thought Parisel; "I was sure of it. It was only a crazy idea of his; Lucile is dead, quite dead!"

Needless to say that this greedy countryman, who coveted Jacques Mellier's fortune, knew not why nor how Lucile had left the paternal roof.

After a moment's silence, Mellier raised his head slowly, saying:

"Enough on that subject; my sorrows are mine alone; I keep them to myself so as not to sadden others with them. But you have made a request of me, Parisel; an answer is necessary; you shall have it. Do me the favor to send for Rouvenat."

Parisel hesitated, but decided presently, despite himself, to do as he was bid, sure beforehand, however, to lose his game from the moment that Mellier made up his mind to remain neutral. Rouvenat, he knew, was the only obstacle that crossed his ambitious plans; so he had long since vowed him implacable hatred. He felt, moreover, that he himself was profoundly antipathetic to Jacques Mellier's old servant, and that Blanche's godfather, who was quite as shrewd as himself, saw clearly through his game. But that did not deter him from nursing his wretched designs.

There are men fatally predestined who have every audacity, and Joseph Parisel was one of them. He might have applied to himself what he said in speaking of his son's character: "When he makes up his mind to do a thing, you can depend upon it that thing must be done or something must break." Besides, in a struggle he would have a great advantage over Rouvenat—the advantage that a scamp has over an honest man.

In answer to Jacques Mellier's summons, Rouvenat entered the room.

"Pierre," said the farmer, "according to what my Cousin Parisel has just said to me, Francois, it seems, is in love with Blanche, and asks for her in marriage. It is for you to reply."

Rouvenat's face expressed the most profound disdain; he said, however, very calmly:

"I have merely to reply to Mons. Parisel that he has lost his time and words."

Francois' father trembled with anger.

"Yet my son, Mons. Rouvenat ——"

"Your son, Mons. Parisel," interposed Pierre in a jeering tone—"your son—I shall not discuss his rare qualities here—may go and seek a wife elsewhere. He shall never be Blanche's husband—you hear?—never!"

"Ah, take care, Mons. Pierre Rouvenat!" cried Parisel furiously, forgetting his usual prudence.

The old servant folded his arms, and, looking daggers at his master's relative, answered proudly:

"Monsieur Parisel, a threat has never frightened me!"

Parisel senior made a movement as if to spring at Rouvenat's throat; but, resuming his hypocritical role, he imposed silence upon the rage that rankled within him.

Jacques Mellier looked at both, unmoved.

"Mlle. Blanche has reached a marriageable age," continued Parisel in a somewhat subdued tone, "and if you have not hidden reasons for wishing her to remain single, Mons. Rouvenat, it seems to me that our suit is not such as are rejected without consideration."

Rouvenat vouchsafed no reply, Parisel continuing:

"In any case, Blanche has at least a right to be consulted."

"You wish a reply from her own lips, Mons. Parisel?" said Rouvenat. "Very well, you shall be satisfied."

And, rushing from the room, he called in a loud voice:

"Blanche! Blanche!"

The young girl left her chamber quickly, and hastened to Mellier's apartment, where she beheld Parisel and Rouvenat standing and the farmer weighed down in his chair. Thinking that an accident had occurred, she sprang towards the latter, crying:

"Father, father, what is the matter with you?"

"Nothing," replied the old man, with a smile, at the same time drawing her to him and kissing her fondly upon the forehead. "Dear little girl," he whispered, "you are all of a tremble."

"I was frightened," she said; "I thought you were ill. But my godfather called me—what for?"

"Ask him."

She turned to Rouvenat.

"Blanche," said he, "a suit is in question. Mons. Parisel would like you to become his son's wife."

The young girl grew pale.

"You may tell Mons. Parisel yourself whether his suit pleases you," pursued Pierre.

"But I don't want to—I don't want to marry!" she exclaimed excitedly.

"Now, Mons. Parisel," said Rouvenat coldly, "you know how you stand." Then, conducting the young girl to the threshold of the open door, he said to her: "Go back to your room, my darling; that is all we had to ask you." And he added in an undertone: "Have no fear; I am here to watch."

Blanche withdrew, and Rouvenat turned again to Parisel, with:

"As you have doubtlessly many more things to say to your cousin, I will not embarrass you by remaining; only, try to be more fortunate. *Au revoir*, Mons. Parisel." And he went out.

Francois' father felt all the irony contained in the old servant's last words; but he told himself that he must swallow his rage till the day when he might revenge himself on these pin-thrusts by biting hard.

CHAPTER XIV.—PLOTTING.

Twenty minutes later Parisel senior joined his son, who was loitering about the house.

"I see by your face that you have failed," said Francois.

"I'm furious. If I held this cursed Rouvenat in a corner, there's no knowing what would happen."

"I hate him as much and perhaps more than you do," replied the son sullenly.

"So long as this man exists or remains on the farm we won't accomplish a thing; he is the real master; his will has full sway. Jacques Mellier is but a cipher; nothing can be expected of him. He is so completely ruled by Rouvenat that he actually trembles at his glance. Oh! this Rouvenat, this Rouvenat! He has an idea which he is hiding from everybody, even from his master. What does he want? What is he looking forward to? Does he hope to have us disinherited?"

"I think there's no doubt about it."

"Yes, to the behoof of Blanche, who is everything to him. This detestable Rouvenat is a statue, a man of steel; you can neither make him speak nor read his mind. Luckily, Mellier declared to me that he would make no will. As for the daughter of Jean Renaud, the assassin, we cannot rely on her. Nothing is to be done on that side—she doesn't love you."

"But *I* love her—I love her madly!"

"That may be. But since she has ceased to be an instrument for us, you ought to forget her. When we are the masters of Seuillon we will see. After all, she is a mere child, and you are a man; if she won't be your wife—very well, you can make her your mistress. Do you understand?"

"Yes," replied Francois, feeling a thrill run through him.

A horrible smile expanded his parent's face.

They had left the gardens, and were walking along the inclosure-wall. A short distance from them was a small but dense grove.

"Come this way," said Parisel to his son, pointing to the grove.

They crossed several patches of newly-sown ground, entered the copse, and soon found themselves in the centre of a sort of glade surrounded by a heavy thicket.

"We can talk here at ease," said Parisel, stopping; "no one can see or overhear us."

But, as if not entirely satisfied with this assurance, he listened attentively for a few moments. Profound silence reigned about them.

"No one ever comes here except when the hazel-nuts are ripe," said Francois.

"Well, I have an idea that we two will gather them together this year," replied Parisel in a mysterious tone.

His son drew closer to him, eyeing him interrogatively.

"Rouvenat is in our way," he went on; "so he must disappear."

Francois started.

"The same thought has been running in my head a long time," he rejoined. "But how? I haven't found ——"

"When an enemy is to be gotten rid of," broke in the father, "all means are good; we have only to wait for the moment, the opportunity."

"And if that doesn't come?"

"Oh! we'll see that it does, though!" said Parisel in a sinister voice.

"It's a much easier matter than you imagine." "There are no real difficulties except for cowards. We will lay our plans. Rouvenat is our enemy—Rouvenat is the obstacle that obstructs our path; we must overthrow him. Then we will be the masters, and Jacques Mellier will be only too glad to rely on us. And then, since you are so anxious to get her, whether she will or no, Jean Renaud's daughter will be yours. We hold, so to speak, Mellier's fortune in our hands, and are we going to let it escape us? Indeed, that would be too stupid! Needless for me to repeat, Rouvenat alone can harm us, so Rouvenat must die!"

"He's a thick skull and sticks fast to life," grumbled Francois.

"Tell me, isn't there some deep hole in the river which he might fall into on venturing too near the edge? Might he not be found lying across the road under the wheels of his loaded wagon? In a few days, when he climbs up to the top of the large cherry-tree after the first ripe cherries for his goddaughter, might not the branch under him give way? Or, when he smokes his pipe, with his back to the wall, might not a stone get loose and fall upon his head? You see, means are not wanting. When the moment comes, we must act. Coolness, cleverness, audacity—that's all one needs."

"We'll see," replied Francois hoarsely.

"I'll leave the farm to-night," resumed the father; "but I won't go far. No one knows me in this country; I can stop where I chooses—at Artemont or elsewhere. Five hundred francs in my pocket which Mellier lent me—an installment of his heritage—with that I can abide events. But we must neither see one another nor write to one another; moreover, I'll assume some name. Prudence is the mother of safety, it is said, and it's true. None but fools implicate themselves. You may need me, though. We must provide for everything that may arise. Well, before separating this evening, we will decide upon some means of establishing a correspondence, either by stones placed on a certain spot, or by a cipher or a letter cut in the bark of a tree."

They left the glade, still conversing, and were soon out of the grove. Close by the place where they had stopped, a woman with dishevelled hair, pale and frightfully thin, quitted suddenly a sort of nest made of leaves, in which she was lying, and rose up in the midst of the thicket. A strange light shone in her eyes. She stretched out her arms, and, looking up to heaven, said in a lugubrious voice:

"Only among human beings are such monsters to be found!"

Our two worthies the Parisels approached the outhouses of the farm. They arrived in front of the shepherd's cot.

The present shepherd of Seuillon was a bachelor. He came from Alsace, like the majority of the other shepherds of the eastern departments of France. For some days past he had ceased temporarily to sleep in the cot, for the time had come to fold in the fallow lands the sheep that needed fattening. He and his dogs spent the night in the fold, ready to defend the flock against an attack by the wolves.

"Look there," said Francois, coming to a stand.

"At what?" asked his father.

"There, look!"

"I see a well."

"An old well, long out of use; but it's deep, and still holds about nine feet of water. I have often heard Rouvenat say that he would have it filled up to prevent an accident. It will be done some day; but, meanwhile, the accident might occur. Examine it; the handle is broken, the shaft rotten, and the chain gone; the stones of the curb are loose, corroded, and ready to fall in; this one, for instance, could be thrown to the bottom by one good kick."

Parisel senior began to laugh.

"Go on," said he, lowering his voice; "I begin to understand."

"After giving a look through the stables, Rouvenat often comes here before going to bed, seats himself upon the curb, and takes a quiet smoke for a quarter of an hour or so."

"So that, were he found one morning at the bottom of the well drowned, his death would be attributed to the loose curb," said old Parisel.

"Naturally."

"Ha, ha! I didn't think you so clever. There's a decided improvement in you, my son."

"I love and hate," replied Handsome Francois gloomily.

"And *I* hate, too, and want to be rich," muttered the worthy parent.

Rouvenat was doomed.

The two wretches exchanged a ferocious look, then parted to enter the farmhouse separately.

CHAPTER XV.—LOVE.

The next morning, about ten o'clock, after kissing Jacques Mellier, Blanche left the farmhouse with a pretty wicker-basket on her arm, bound for Fremicourt. Instead of taking the parish-road, which was the most direct, she made her way to the path along the Sableuse, which winds through the willows, poplars and alders following the meanders of the stream. The young girl instinctively sought solitude; besides, in Spring, when everything is green, when everything hums, sings and flourishes, one prefers the cool of the shady paths to the hot and dusty roads. Blanche, moreover, wished to isolate herself in order to be able to speak to her heart undisturbed and continue a beautiful dream that had been interrupted. She was walking on slowly, with her head slightly bowed, engrossed in her reflections, when all at once a young man, who was also following the river's bank, but coming in the opposite direction, stood before her. It was Edmund. Blanche uttered a cry of surprise, in which there might have been a little joy also. The young man advanced a few steps further, with his hat in his hand; then both stopped simultaneously, the heaving of Blanche's bosom betraying her emotion.

"You are surprised to see me here, mademoiselle," began Edmund in a vibrating voice; "but you will be more surprised to hear that I came to this spot feeling sure I would meet you. Yesterday," he continued, with a soft smile, "I spoke to you about my lucky star; it goes before me, guiding me, like in former times the star of the Magi, and I follow it."

"I did not expect to find you in this path," she replied, very agitated; "yet you were not far from me, for I was thinking of you."

"You take an interest in one who is a stranger to you. I occupy your mind! Oh, what unlooked-for happiness!"

"I know that you are very unhappy, and that is probably the reason why I think of you."

"Oh, how good you are!" he whispered, "and how you deserve to be loved!" Saying which, he looked at her tenderly.

An indefinable sensation crept over the young girl.

"Oh, yes!" Edmund resumed animatedly, "you certainly deserve the affection everybody has for you; and who, pray, could not love you? I was unhappy, had lost all courage, was lost in life, not knowing where to go, seeing before me but barren roads, and at the end nothing. Then you appeared to me; your voice struck my ear like an echo from heaven. At the same time I felt stronger, I no longer felt lonely, a way opened before me—a broad and easy way. Yesterday, I dared question the future, and it told me that I might have my share of the joys and good of this world. And I believed it. With confidence, revived faith, and my soul becalmed, my heart full of hope, I raised my head again. You do not know me, mademoiselle; we have exchanged but a few words; yet see what you have done for me already. After that, judge of your power. Blanche is your name, but I give you another: I call you the Fairy of Hope!"

Her eyes fixed on the ground, the young girl listened with a sort of rapture to this language, so new to her.

"Now," pursued Edmund enthusiastically, "I no longer doubt, I believe—I believe that the bountiful Creator, as you said to me, never forsakes the afflicted; I believe that He sent you, one of His angels, to me! I believe in the future, in life, in good, in the realization of my dreams, in success, in happiness! And where is this happiness? I need not look very far for it; it is wherever you are, in the air you breathe, in the path you now tread, in everything you look at, in everything that sees you, in everything that approaches you, in everything that hears you: your smile generates it, your eyes make it."

Blanche looked up at the young man with moistened eyes.

He took her hand. She did not withdraw it, but her agitation increased.

"Do you intend to remain long in this country?" she asked.

"I never wish to leave it," replied he, gazing at her ardently.

She did not meet his look, but lowered her eyes again, and gently withdrew her hand.

"You are going to Fremicourt?" he said.

"Yes."

"Allow me to accompany you to the end of the path."

She made no reply; in other words, she was very willing.

They walked on together side by side, both silent for a while, the pretty flowers seeming to smile at them as they passed.

"Have you relatives at Fremicourt?" queried the young girl presently.

"I do not know a soul there?" returned Edmund. "It was chance, or rather, as I told you, my lucky star, that brought me to Saint Irun, then to Fremicourt, where I had the unlooked-for pleasure of meeting you again. Yesterday, I was entirely indifferent to this country, which was fatal to my childhood—it seemed as cold and irksome to me as every other spot; but to-day its aspect has completely changed—it appears to me like another promised land; I find it very beautiful, full of life; its sites are picturesque, its landscapes charming; in short, I admire it and love it. Besides, it is your country, mademoiselle. Does that not signify everything? Here I found hope, here I should like to pass the rest of my life."

Blanche smiled sweetly, saying:

"But there is a sameness about our green trees and fresh vegetation that soon wearies one accustomed to Paris life."

"One could not grow weary near you," he said spiritedly.

"You live at Saint Irun?"

"Yes, mademoiselle, until further orders."

"Did not someone in Fremicourt speak to you about me yesterday?"

"Yes, an old man—the one that gave you a bouquet at the entrance of the church."

"Mardoche. I saw him last evening; he told me so."

"Is old Mardoche one of your poor people?"

"He is also my friend."

"And he loves you tenderly. He spoke of you in the most enthusiastic manner. I learned through him that you were the Providence of the unfortunate. To those who hunger you give bread; to those who suffer, to the hopeless, your smile and kind words give consolation. That is what you have done for me. I also know through Mardoche that your father possesses a large fortune, and that the fine farm you see from here is his, yours. I see, alas! the distance that separates us. You are placed upon a summit which I can never reach. No one can prevent me from leading you to the altar in the secresy of my heart, from admiring you, from thinking of you incessantly, from loving, adoring you; but I can never have the audacious pretension to become your husband. Ah! yes, what I long for most is denied me! I should like to devote my whole life to you. A new existence is beginning for me; living through you, it is for you that I should like to live. You may believe me, mademoiselle it is not only my devotion, but my heart and soul that I should find very sweet to give you. But you are rich, you are rich!" he added sadly.

"I am indeed told that I shall be rich some day," replied the young girl, with beaming face; "but even only make the choice of a husband easier for me."

"Quite true. But your father, being very rich, will certainly not allow you to marry a poor man."

"So they often reason in families, it seems; but my father and godfather have not that way of seeing. They will consult the real worth of the husband they choose for me, rather than his position or fortune. Loving me as they do, what they wish before all things is my happiness."

"If old Mardoche told me the truth, you have been asked for in marriage several times already."

"Yes."

"By rich young men, belonging to respectable families, very much esteemed in the country?"

"Oh, yes."

"Yet all of these suits have been rejected."

The young girl smiled sweetly.

"Do you know why, mademoiselle? Were you consulted?"

"No; for it would have been useless, as I was not in love," she answered in an adorable tone.

Edmund's face brightened up.

"Oh! thanks, thanks," he cried. "You fill me with fresh hope!"

She fixed her sparkling eyes upon him, and replied, with her usual soft smile:

"Am I not the Fairy of Hope?"

"You open heaven to me!" he exclaimed ecstatically. "Only I shall have to work at least three years to acquire a position to render myself worthy of you—and that's a very long time."

"I'll wait," she said in a whisper.

"Ah!" he cried, intoxicated with joy, "you have conquered the fatality that pursued me. No sorrow can reach me hereafter! A week hence I'll be in Paris, once more immersed in my interrupted studies."

"This evening," resumed Blanche, "I will speak to my father and godfather about you, and to-morrow, I hope, you may come to Seuillon."

"How shall I be informed?"

"You will find Mardoche at Fremicourt to-morrow noon, at the place where you met him yesterday."

"How eagerly I shall wait for this messenger!" he said, with great warmth.

They reached the end of the path, which did not extend beyond the stone bridge over the Sableuse. There he clasped her soft white hand in both of his, gave it a little squeeze, and they separated.

CHAPTER XVI.—HOPE VANISHES.

Blanche continued on her way towards Fremicourt, from which she was now but a short distance. The young man watched her till she turned the corner of one of the first houses of the village; then, moving off with apparent regret, he crossed the bridge and bent his steps in the direction of the road to Saint Irun.

But he had proceeded only a few paces when a man, emerging from a clump of bushes, sprang into the road.

This newcomer, who was none other than Pierre Rouvenat himself, stopped, facing Edmund, with the evident intention of speaking to him.

The old man's face was graver and sadder than usual, but there was more pain than anger in his look. When the young man paused before him, Pierre made a movement of surprise.

"I recognize you, monsieur," he said; "you were at Gray last Thursday, were you not?"

"I was," replied the young man uneasily.

"And do you recognize *me*?"

"If I mistake not, you are the godfather of Mlle. Blanche Mellier."

"Yes, the godfather of the young girl you were talking with a moment ago. I espied you from the distance, and could have interrupted your conversation—maybe it would have been better; but I preferred to wait for you here, for I do not want Blanche to know that I saw you together; and she must never know what I am about to say to you."

Edmund felt that an unexpected misfortune was about to strike him; his heart rose to his throat, and he looked anxiously at Rouvenat, who went on:

"You have a face that speaks in your favor. I can't read characters as cleverly as your city people—I am only a countryman; but when I see an honest face I make no mistake about it. So I do not imagine you came here to trifle with the feelings of our innocent child. In plain words, you love her, young man."

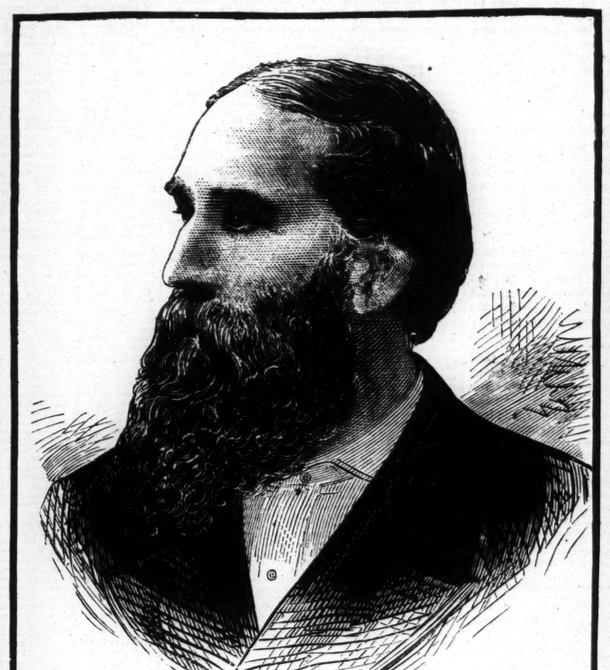
"With all my heart and soul," replied Edmund frankly.

"And she, Blanche?"

"Mlle. Mellier has given me no authority to answer for her," returned the young man in a quivering voice.

A moment's silence ensued. The two men were similarly moved. Edmund felt a sort of terror growing within him, for he understood instinctively that Blanche was entirely dependent on the man before him; that, by one word, he could destroy his happiness and wipe out all his dreams.

"Listen to me," resumed the old man in a tearful voice—"listen to me. You love Blanche, so do I—more, perhaps, than if she were my own daughter. I saw her a few hours after she came into the world; when she was a wee thing I rocked her on my knees and in my arms. Over the lifeless body of her mother, who died shortly after her delivery, I swore never to forsake her offspring, to watch over her always. Ah! God is good; He won't allow Blanche to be unhappy. If I could tell you all, you would understand—but I can't. Mark you, a tear in her eye would be like a knife-thrust to me; to spare her a sorrow, I would cheerfully give up the few days I may yet have to live; for, arrived at the end of my course, to give my life for a sweet look or a smile from my darling Blanche would not be a great sacrifice. But I repeat, God is good; He will keep me near Blanche till the day I can say, in dying, 'She is happy!'"



WILLIAM SAURIN LYSTER, OPERATIC MANAGER, DIED IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, NOV. 28, 1880.

Edmund listened with feverish agitation.

"Could I have foreseen what has happened," pursued Rouvenat in a still sadder tone, "I should not have taken her to that cursed fair, and you would not have met. But the harm being done, our duty now is to remedy it. We will restore peace where you might unintentionally throw everything into the greatest confusion. Alone I would be powerless, perhaps; but you will assist me. Yes, your frank face tells me that I may count on you."

The young man's anxiety increased twofold.

"I beseech you, monsieur," he said, "have pity on my anguish—tell me what you exact of me."

"Well," replied Rouvenat very gravely, "I am forced to tell you that you must forget Blanche; drive her image from your thoughts, for you must not love her."

"Oh! you may ask me to do anything but that!" cried the young man.

"It must be as I say," murmured Rouvenat, shaking his head, "since you cannot become her husband."

Edmund heaved a sigh and bowed his head.

"Poor fellow! he loves her deeply," soliloquized the old man.

But the interests which he was convinced ought to be protected at that moment were there to warn his heart against all weakness, all dangerous sensibility.

TO BE CONTINUED.

"EXCUSE ME."

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY EDWARD E. KIDDER.

I was acquainted with a man
Whose actions would amuse me;
He'd get behind a person's back,
Deliver them a thumping "whack,"
And then would say "Excuse me!"

He'd tread upon your treasured corn
Where'er you chose to wear it;
And if you had a stock of oaths,
And took that time to air it,
He'd say "Excuse me," with a smile,
And so you'd grin and bear it.

At suppers it was his delight
To spill the oil or mustard,
To overturn upon your lap
The omelette or custard;
And while you writhed in wild despair
He wasn't even flustered.

But ah! one wretched night for him,
Not dreaming of his danger,
He launched a tap Italian dream
Upon an aged stranger
(He did not know this man had been
A noted "Texas ranger").

This time "Excuse me" did not work—
The stranger loooked around him
In anger for the criminal,
Until, convinced he'd found him,
He dropped our jester to the floor,
And then began to pound him.

He dislocated seven ribs,
He fiercely clutched his throttle;
He sat upon our hero till
His face began to mottle.
He played upon his manly breast
Fantasias with a bottle.

And when the joker, nearly dead,
Gasped: "Why do you abuse me?"
The ancient stranger simply said:
"Excuse me—oh, excuse me."

CECILE,
OR PRIVATE THEATRICALS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY HELEN LUQUEER.

"So, you have come at last!" and Cecile sprang from the little low green couch, scattering in every direction spools of floss, bits of ribbon, scraps of lace and all the paraphernalia of a pretty work-basket, which in her impetuosity she had overturned.

"What a little Vesuvius you are, Cell! Can't you let a fellow get stranded in one of your easy-chairs before you erupt?" laughed the gentleman addressed, and who had entered the room unannounced.

"It is all very well for you to talk, Harold, especially as you are having such a gay time at Lovington place, while I, forsooth ——"

"Are pining to be one of the number."

"If I am to be permitted to finish the sentence, I would say—am left to mope myself to death in this little, miserable, stuffy room."

"Any more adjectives, Cell?"

Too angry for words, the lady walked to a window which commanded the one street of a straggling country town, trailing over the cheap ingrain carpet her long, white cashmere robe, with an exquisite ruching of filmy lace.

"Really, dearest, you should not be angry with me. I came the instant I could get away without exciting suspicion."

"That is just what I complain of, Harold. To think you have not moral courage sufficient to brave the sneers and prejudice of ——"

"Why do you not finish the sentence, Cell?"

"The great Lovington family are your people, and it does not become me to say all I may think," and the little lady turned and flashed upon him a contemptuous glance from eyes that were brilliant with unshed tears.

"Come, Cecile, and sit down by me, dear," and the voice was grave and contrasted strikingly with the raillery of his first greeting. "I have something to tell you. But, first of all, I have not merited your rebuke, and have not hesitated to tell my parents what I would loudly proclaim upon the housetops, if need be, but only have been deterred by a proper opportunity. A premature disclosure might ruin all."

"Ruin!" she questioned. "Am I not ——"

"All that is dear and lovely. But I have to contend with certain prejudices and relations."

"But, Harold ——"

"But what, dear?"

"Time flies, and I hope I am not to be imprisoned here for my New Year's. I would far rather be back in New York. One can be gay there

NEW YORK CLIPPER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1881.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No Answers by Mail or Telegraph.

[For answers to communal questions, see "Answers to Several Inquiries."]

☞ QUESTIONS THAT DO NOT REACH THIS OFFICE UNTIL MONDAY MORNING WILL NOT BE ANSWERED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

C. C. R., Coshocton.—A bets fifty dollars the California will be counted for Hancock and B bets that it will be counted for Garfield. Who wins? It had been decided by the ——— that A wins, and by the ——— that it is a draw. A now claims the whole one hundred dollars, as decided by the ———, and B demands his fifty dollars back, on the ground of the ——— having decided it a draw. Under the circumstances I am at a loss to know what has been decided to abide by your decision. Who wins?"..... If it was agreed to leave it to the decision of the two papers named, their disagreement makes a draw of the wager, unless the two bettors are satisfied to accept a further reference. If it was not left to the decision of those papers, it was your province as stakeholder, either of those papers, it was your province as stakeholder, either of those papers, it was your province as stakeholder, either

THE TRIGGER.

MICHIGAN SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Michigan Sportsmen's Association for the Protection of Game, Fish and Birds will hold its sixth annual session at Lansing, commencing Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 2 P. M., and continuing one and a half or two days. The headquarters will be at the Lansing House. Every local club or society organized in the interest of game and fish protection or propagation, improvement in marksmanship and outdoor recreation, or the study of the natural history of game animals of the land and water, in the State, is earnestly desired to send delegates to the number of five (or less) to this meeting, and individual sportsmen and citizens interested in the objects of this Association are invited to attend and become individual members of the State Association, and be entitled to all the privileges of elected delegates. Contributed articles and essays on laws for the protection of game animals of fur and feather, and insectivorous birds; on fish laws, including propagation as well as protection; on trespass laws, and the mutual rights of sportsmen and land-owners; on enforcement of game, fish and trespass laws; on nomenclature, both popular and scientific; on sporting dogs; on hunting, angling, guns, powders, projectiles, experiments, observations, etc. etc., are requested from every source without further solicitation. Contributors who are unable to attend will please send their articles to the secretary, H. B. Roney, at Lansing, care of Lansing House, who will read them at the meeting.

COLUMBIA RIFLE ASSOCIATION

of Washington, D. C., met on Jan. 5 and elected the following officers for the year ensuing: President, Col. J. O. P. Burnside; vice-president, Wm. Harkness; secretary, F. W. Lantz; treasurer, Amey A. Alder; executive committee, Col. John Cox; finance committee—P. J. Lauritzen, C. H. David and Lieut. E. B. Hubbard. Harrison Dingman declined re-election as secretary, and was made an honorary member. A trophy was won by Lieut. Hubbard by a lady, and it is to be shot for at 200 and 300 yards, it having to be won three times before becoming individual property. The executive committee were authorized to make arrangements for a prize-meeting to be held in June next, continuing several days, the same to be open to all comers; also to arrange for a series of competitions to take place on Bennings' range during the season of 1881. H. Seward, opticlan, London, promises to send another prize, to be contended for at the next annual prize-meeting.

MEMBERS of the Fountain Gun Club had their ninth monthly contest for the diamond championship badge, on Jan. 5, at their shooting-traps, handicap rise, 80yds. fall, at the Brooklyn Driving Park, L. I., Jan. 5. Result: C. W. Wingert (30yds.) 7; J. De Prairie (27), 7; H. L. Smith (30), 6; W. Cherry (25), 6; D. A. Lemken (23), 6; F. Madison (20), 6; A. Eddy (27), 5; W. Selover (25), 5; F. Roberts (25), 5; J. T. Slane (25), 4; W. Hunter (23), 4. In shooting-off Wingert killed three more straight to De Prane's one out of two. Referee, Dr. Bronk.

JOHNSON'S TALENT-Y. matches for two hundred and fifty dollars a side, one hundred birds each, single ground-trap, 21 yards rise, 80yds. boundary, was shot by Miles Johnson and Dr. Talbot at the Brooklyn Driving Park, Long Island, on Thursday, Jan. 6. So great was the interest in the contest that the unusual number of over five hundred spectators assembled to witness it. The weather was fine, but the light was trying to the eyes. Each man used a 7½lb gun, and Johnson won, with the excellent score, under the circumstances, of 81 to 76. Referee, J. De Fraine. Time, 3h. 15m.

THE MONTHLY SHOOT of the Long Island Club was held at Dexter's Park, near Jamaica, L. I., Jan. 3, the conditions being seven birds each, from five ground-traps, handicap rise, 80yds. fall. Result: J. V. Turner (21yds.), 7; A. Eddy (25), 6; J. Langcake (26), 6; W. Mills (28), 6; E. H. Madison (25), 6; W. Lemken (24), 5; E. Van Staden (22), 5; C. Hance (25), 4; W. Wynn (27), 4; D. Thompson (21), 4.

A PIGEON-MATCH, fifty birds each, 21yds. rise, 80yds. fall, for $50 a side, was shot by George Smith, Audubon Club, and Robt. F. Hankin, Queen City Club, at Shultz's Park, Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 6. Smith won by a score of 47 to 44.

THE BLOOMING-GROVE PARK ASSOCIATION'S clubhouse in Blooming-grove township, Pike County, Penn., was destroyed by fire on Jan. 3. The loss is stated was between $8,000 and $10,000. It will be rebuilt in the Spring.

CARVER VS. SCOTT.—A cablegram states that W. F. Carver and Scott, a noted English shot, are matched to shoot at one hundred pigeons each, for $1,000 a side, in England, Feb. 1.

C. E. DEXTER will hold a pigeon-shooting tournament on his grounds, near Cypress Hills, L. I., Jan. 25, 26, 27.

THE BARNARD RIFLE CLUB of Newark, N. J., held a meeting on the 4th inst. and elected the following: C. E. Simmonds, president; Wm Van Dorn, vice-president; C. H. Miesl, treasurer; M. R. Wood, financial secretary; H. V. Van Buren, captain; C. J. Miesl, scorer.

AT A MEETING held on Jan. 4 by the Washington Rifle Club of Newark, N. J., the following officers were elected: President, Wm. Kaar; vice-president, C. H. Townsend; secretary, J. Cooper; treasurer, John Cox; executive committee—P. J. Lauritzen, C. H. David and Lieut. E. B. Hubbard. Harrison Dingman declined re-election as secretary, and was made an honorary member. A trophy was won by Lieut. Hubbard by a lady, and it is to be shot for at 200 and 300 yards, it having to be won three times before becoming individual property. The executive committee were authorized to make arrangements for a prize-meeting to be held in June next, continuing several days, the same to be open to all comers; also to arrange for a series of competitions to take place on Bennings' range during the season of 1881. H. Seward, optician, London, promises to send another prize, to be contended for at the next annual prize-meeting.

DEATH OF ETHELBERT A. MARSHALL.—Our correspondent telegraphs that this old theatrical manager died of Bright's disease of the kidneys at his residence, No. 757 South Seventh street, Philadelphia, Jan. 10, in the seventy-first year of his age. He was born in Providence, R. I., and learned the wright's trade there when seventeen years old. But a slight sprained ankle, which kept her out of the bill the remainder of the week. Her physician was of the opinion that she would be able to resume her professional duties Jan. 10. Ariel is the fairy spirit of the tempest, of whose countenance no means of which she performs, and says that she has been doing the act for four years without ever having the slightest accident until she met with the one described above.

MINNIE PALMER and company presented "The Boarding-school" in the Opera-house, St. Louis, Mo., the past week, the theatre being crowded nightly after the first performance. Gus F. Hall made several appearances in place of Mr. Carleton, the baritone, who was indisposed. The company appear in Evansville, Ind., Nashville, Tenn., and Memphis this week, New Orleans, La., 17.....A number of the Louis Nathal Opera Company, which recently stranded in St. Paul, Minn., have arrived here, having given performances on the way.....Rice's Bijou-opera Company did not fulfill their second week in the Pickwick Theatre, but left for Louisville, Ky., at the close of their first week. Meagre attendance was the cause.

"BOCCACCIO" was sung at the Arch-street Theatre, Philadelphia, the past week, by Mahn's English Comic-opera Company to large audiences. The principal baritone acts in Philadelphia, Vincent Hogan, and W. E. Morgan were heartily welcomed.

A PIANIST is wanted to travel with a lady elocutionist. See advertisement.

RUTH CHESTER'S LATEST SONGS, "Kisses that Wake Me" and "Our Old Family Bible," are for sale, with orchestral parts free, at H. G. Hallenberg's advertised address.

CORINNE'S MERRYMAKERS are billed in Ottawa, Ill., Jan. 9; Aurora 11, Appleton 12, 13, Janesville, Wis., 13, Oshkosh 14, 15, Fond du Lac 19, 20, Madison 21, 22.

THE BERGER FAMILY CONCERT COMPANY sang in Griffin, Ga., Jan. 3, Newnan 4, Marietta 5, Dalton 6, Centreville 8, going thence to Covington 10, Madison 11, Athens 12.

THE EMMA ABBOTT OPERA COMPANY gave three performances in St. James' Hall, Buffalo, N. Y., presenting "Lucia of Lammermoor" Jan. 7, "Bonnie Dundee" matinee 8, and "The Bohemian Girl" at night.

RICE'S BIJOU OPERA COMPANY are to close their traveling season Jan. 29 in Chicago, Ill.

THE IDEAL COLORED MUSICAL COMBINATION is due in Bradford, Pa., Jan. 10, Jamestown, N. Y., 11, New Wilmington, Pa., 12; Sharon 13.

TWO LADY SINGERS for leading roles are wanted for a comic-opera company in England. See Simmonds & Brown's card.

POSTER-CUTS AND LITHOGRAPHS for the new comic-opera "Olivette" can be obtained of J. E. Jackson, as per card.

THE POLO AND NATIONAL GUARD QUADRILLES, with orchestral and piano scores, can be obtained of Elias Howe, as advertised.

A DOUBLE BASS PLAYER can find an engagement with G. H. Thornton, who advertises.

THE BROOKLYN ORATORIO SOCIETY performed "The Messiah" under the direction of Carl Zerrahn Jan. 5, with Fannie Louise Barnes and Grace F. Dalton, sopranos; Mrs. C. B. Fowler and Miss A. P. Pitman, contraltos; W. J. Winch, tenor; Geo. Hay, bass; with Gerritt Smith, organist, and W. S. Fenelossa, pianist.

THE BEETHOVEN CLUB, Mrs. E. Humphrey Allen, soprano, and the Germania Band, are to appear in Tremont Temple 3 by Charles H. Morse.....The annual election of officers of the Orpheus Musical Association, Hoboken, took place in Sedgwick Hall, Jan. 10. Harry Wentworth, vice-president; F. H. Underwood, vice-president; A. F. Gaenssler, recording secretary; Robert Gems, corresponding secretary; Frank Schaeffer, treasurer; Fred Hesselmeyer and F. C. Freigan, librarians.....M. De Reaupiain's French-opera Company appear at the Globe Theatre in April.....The tenth last entertainment in the Bible Union lecture course was given in Tremont Temple 5 by the Lieutenant Concert Company; E. B. Perry, the blind pianist; Gertie Edmunds, vocalist; T. P. Ryder, organist; and G. Paul Smith, reader.....The Eutorpe-gave their second concert in the Meionaon 5 to instrumentalists being the Beethoven Club—Charles N. Allen, Gustav Dannreuther Harry Heindl and Wolf Fries.....A concert was given in the Dudley-street Opera-house 5 by the Weber Quartet and Miss Daisy Hunt, who then made her debut as a vocalist.....The Harvard Musical Association gave their fourth symphony concert in Music Hall afternoon and evening 6, assisted by Carl Zerrahn, with Georg Henschel, baritone, as soloist.....The unprecedentative series of concerts by the Philharmonic Orchestra was finished Jan. 6 by Theodore Thomas' specialities; the Garettas of Leavitt's Gigantics; the entertainment closing with the Elks' Gathering, J. J. Braham conductor.....Professor Jacques Offenbach was directed by E. S. Tarr, G. W. Murray and Frank Wright. The machinists were W. F. Prescott and F. Somers. The pyrotechnist was Joseph Lee. Ben Maginley and William O'Brien. Gas effects were furnished by George Seavey, and calcium lights by John J. Ridgway. The piano used was by Chickering & Sons.....Miss Katie Lougee, whose serious illness has been noticed in these columns, has so far improved in health as to be hopeful so soon resuming her professional duties.....Charles H. Hicks retires from the business-management of Salvini's company 15, to superintend the Coonsman's tour.....It is made a question whether, which resort he will again manage the coming Summer.....Henri Laurent and Blanche Corelli, the bewitching Parisian pair, who play Halleck's Alhambra will be improved before the opening of the Summer season by adding the proposed galleries and altering the stage to the size, now on a level.....John J. Sullivan will join a company to open at the Chestnut street Opera-house, Philadelphia, for a few days, Feb. 7.....The Grand Central Room dramatist, will institute legal proceedings against Comley and Barton for discarding his piece 'Lawn Tennis,' contrary to agreement.....John F. Smith, of San Francisco, has in contemplation the production of the spectacular play 'Le Voyage en Suisse,' made popular by the Hanlon-Lee Company in Europe.....Signor Salvini was a guest of the Papyrus Club at their banquet at the Revere House 8."

CINCINNATI, O., ITEMS to Jan. 7 are furnished as appended by our correspondent: "Joseph Jefferson opened in Pike's Opera-house 3 in 'The Rivals' to a splendid house, and the play 'caught on' so effectually that it was continued the entire week, except 8, to a fine business. Rip Van Winkle was the bill for the performance Saturday. Minnie Palmer follows 10, Sodome 17, Sarah Bernhardt 31.....Lotta opened her second week at the Grand Opera-house 3 in 'Musette' and the 'Little Detective,' which was repeated 4, 5, 6, 'Musette' completing the week. The support in 'Musette' was excellent, and in 'Little Nell' fair. The Thursday matinee combination follows 10, 'Fun on the Bristol' 17.....Sol Smith Russell opened 3 in Heuck's Opera-house in 'Edgewood Folks,' and drew a popular house, and received a verdict the play has been a success, business being large all the week, and everybody pleased. The specialties of Mr. Russell were contributed by Mr. Lewis Morrison. Advantage of a good company. The play was handsomely put on as regards scenery and appointments. Agnes Leonard follows 10.....The sale of tickets for Sarah Bernhardt's four nights realized during the first two days $4,067.....Miles' 'Revelers' are expected back to-day. The reorganization will probably result in the substitution of Alice Oates, who is now here, for Miss Manfred, in the 'leading role.'"

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THE WINDOW LITHOGRAPH:

Explaining How Two Lovely Stars Were Extinguished in The Legitimate Firmament.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY VANDYKE BROWN.

What strange mishaps in this world there are,
And how very true it is
That one may smile as a star,
And be censured, as it were, of a phiz—
Which general truth in particular
Applies to theatrical sis.

It was a young play-acting maiden
Who did herself announce
Another of the piece she played in,
Which name was "The Satin Flounce."
She had formerly done the serio-comic
But the wish to become an astronomic
Celebrity did seize
This lady, who long had found no trouble
In filling her every date,
Until her decease she sought to double
In the light-I-mate.

Believe, alas! she found that bubble,
As I hardly need to state;
For within the old world in the drama described,
By legitimate's first three letters
A fixed cup it was destined she should be,
Where she sunned the long-skirt fetters
Of the simile, there, is somewhat mixed,
But it isn't owing to blisters).

It was another play-acting maiden
(I call her "maiden" there's nothing else said in
Fulfilling this metre's lawn)—
Another fair, dashing maiden, and she
Practically did pounce
Upon the first maid's properties,
As I've said, "The Satin Flounce,"
A cow'y of which, surreptitiesize,
She did obtain and announce.

Whereupon there sprang hotly rash,
Which might have resulted in scars,
If in their circuits had happened to clash
On the boards of their mimic wars,
Featherton,
And at home Miss Mary Brown.
While as for heroine No. 2,
The readers of the lady
Was known as Belle Bartholomew,
Though christened Elisabeth Brady.

You may not know that every play,
Although it be satin flounced,
Requires a certain number of feel on the way
In which it is billed and announced;
Believing which, my heroines two
Did frankly draw their draughts
For three-sheet posters, in red and blue,
And dodgers and lithographs,
Each one of which would have a picture
Of her own particular phiz,
Which, seeing, the other, for lack of stricture,
Would entire refuse from the biz—
Which shows, when jealousy's sting has pricked
Illuminate soul, what it is!
Many puns on artist lithographic
Did get them Maud and Belle,
Though the fact that both with him did traffic
Was known to the whole profession.

Pen-green with jealous-see!
"I've a very beautiful collection
Of faces here," said Belle,
"Just make a choice, which your complexion
And physiogno-mee
Will fit the best, and when you're fixed on
The one you'd like to be
You can, thereafter, leave the matter
Entirely to me."

This plan gives every professional lady
A chance to make a hit,
While also a picture as lovely
As her conscience will permit!"

Thus spake the lithographic man
Unto his custom-er,
And straightaway then Miss Maud began
To make a meaning-ful
Not over-classic countenance—
A face which should impart
Brain-fever like unto the romance
Of lithographic art.

'Twas thus she lumped the strong attractions
Of the actress who fill Fame's niche—
Combined, as it were, from no vulgar factions
A total of loveliness, which, [surely
When hung in the windows of drug-shops, must
The eye of the public bewitch.

In the picture's general caste was a florid
Display of the golden hair;
Miss Raeden had selected Hebe's forehead
And the Duchess of Gainesborough's mouth;
The eyebrows were Cleopatra's plainly,
The ears Bernhardtishly thin;
With the Empress Eugenie's chin;
And a smile there was of Rosalind sweetness,
Quite pleasant to take in.

Sarah was the portrait my hero-ine
Did select with intent to announce
The kind of a star it was that would shine
In the folds of "The Satin Flounce."
And her there in bright hue some who'd doubt
The picture's identi-tee,
Was wisely had it printed out,
In letters plain to see.
Maude Featherton," thus making good
Her claim that it was she—
Which explains why this work has been misunderstood
By such as the star did see
Where is, you know, in this matter of art
So much stupid(i)tee).

What strange mishaps in this world there are,
Which, alas! it is
That in glory one star from another star
Doth differ, albeit one phiz
Is, now and then, a pinch, for several stars,
If they follow the same line of biz;
Which profound reflection has point, although
It may be hope just wher' 'tis!

Next, when to the lithographic man
Miss Caroline No. 3,
He said, as her wants to tell she began:
"I have just the thing for you!"
And he showed her the picture of Featherton
Unto Bartholomew.
It bore no label, as you may guess,
And being of recently deceased,
Or recently dead, promptly pounce
It to be a really striking like-ness
Of herself in "The Satin Flounce."
And she ordered seven thousand for the season's run,
While triumph shone in her eyes
As she thought how that picture the Featherton
Would prove parsley-zed.
No doubt that lithographic cuss
Believed it exceeding shrewd
To sell one picture twice, and thus
Two rival stars delude;
But whether Le Brun is seen for him
Had he never sold one of his daubs
Then to cause to collide in their circuits two
Theatrical planets,
For, sharp as he fancied himself to be,
He tripped in the network of fraud—
He made them pictures up, did he,
And sent Miss Belle's to Maude;
While those that were labeled "Featherton"
He slipped to her rival abhorred;
Now, the agent who traveled in advance
Of the Featherton "Satin Flounce,"
When the pictures he got, neglected to glance
At the names they did announce,
But posted them up in the windows of
Each hotel and dwelling-house
For art the man he had no love,
Though very fond of muge,
Which vulgar terms to lithographs
Is sometimes applied by slugs);
And all in time Miss Featherton
Did learn of the fraud played
And there her portraits she gazed upon
While her soul with triumph thrilled,
Until, in fact, she nearly broke
Did pause for a closer view,
When first her startled eyes did see
The [ripped
One shriek, which to merest shreds would have
"The Satin Flounce," and straightway
Miss Featherton to the sidewalk slipped,
A-carrying on at a great way.

And all the reporters' accounts did agree,
When next they took stock,
That 'twas really most lucky she happened to be
So near an apothecary's!

Miss Maude is no longer an astronomic
Dazzler in planetary sky,
Has withdrawn back to serio-comic,
On the boards of varie-tee.
While as for Miss Belle, having used a rattan on
That wicked lithograph-artist man,
She is nightly now propelled from a cannon,
As the human projectile lady;
And neither for satin flounces has any
One in particu-lar.

With the moral whereof this tale is concluded:
The man who shall so make a picture
As to cause one star group where two did
Can never be subject to stricture—
A truth so plain that it isn't open
To possible contradicture!

HILDA:

A MYSTERY OF PSYCHOLOGY.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY WILLIAM H. BUSHNELL.

It was simply the act that any brave man would have done—only leaping lightly over the rail of the steamer, seizing the dress of a girl that was sinking, grasping one of the unconscious forms thrown to him, and being lifted to the deck. That was all; but it was fate—wild, weird and resistless beyond belief. The steamer had but a little before swung from the wharf, the crowd had not yet ceased its waving, and the confusion the girl had accidentally been pushed overboard. He had never seen her before, but the eyes that were raised to his in unutterable thankfulness as he gave her to the care of friends seemed in a moment to look into his very soul, and their glances to be fixed there as if graven upon a steel mirror.

Light as he made of the rescue, much as he avoided the praise showered upon him (for the true brave are ever modest), yet a hundred times during the day he found his thoughts turning to the girl, and his inner senses (in contradiction to those revealed upon the surface) were troubled and perplexed by those haunting eyes.

Night came, but he had seen nothing more of her. The noisy passengers had settled to rest. The steamer sailed steadily on, and the wash of the waves had a solemn, rhythmic tone against its sides. The land had gone down with the sun, but neither star nor moon illuminated the darkness. There was a sense of awe, of solitude, of vastness, of reaching out beyond earth into space, in his soul, as he sat and dreamed until the middle watch. Then and suddenly he became aware of a presence, though he had heard neither sound of foot nor rustle of dress. A strange, chilling sensation crept over him, and he involuntarily thought of the old-nurse superstition—that when one feels as somebody is walking over your grave! There was so dark he could discover nothing—knew not where the strange intruder stood until there was breathed in his ears in low, sibilant whispers:

"Thank God for saving my life. Do not deem me ungrateful for not sooner doing so. I could not come before."

He turned, saw no figure, but from out the gloom flashed the eyes, sparkling and luminous—eyes that seemed to possess the power of electric light and pierce him to the soul.

"No thanks are necessary," he replied, striving but vainly to see the face bent towards him.

"But you must accept them. To-morrow it might be too late. Our routes lie in different directions, but my spirit shall always be with you. Your name I know, and it will never be forgotten."

"And yours?" he questioned.

"Before your eyes are sealed in slumber you will read it," was the evasive response.

He felt that his hand was touched as by the pole of a battery, was raised, that hot lips pressed it and stretched out his arms to grasp—nothing. The form appeared intangible as air, and he realized that again he stood alone.

"What strange mystery is this?" he pondered. "She said our paths led apart, but her spirit would ever be near me. What can she mean by that? And she knew my name. How? I am a stranger. Not one on board has ever before seen me—but one ever heard my name. Strange, very strange, how she could know it. And I am to read hers before I slumber! When and where? If such a thing were possible, I should fancy I had suddenly been transported in the hand of enchantment and was bewitched," and he laughed a cynical laugh at the folly of the idea.

Yet it was impossible to free himself from the spell of the eyes that had fallen upon him. Turn whither way he would, they flashed luminous fire upon him. He was possessed by such feelings as he had never known before, and when he at last entered his stateroom he was as one haunted by some unknown dread—some weird influence he could not shake off.

He looked everywhere for a card, for a scrap of paper bearing a name, and his lips curled with scorn as he thought of the assertion of the girl. Then came a strange, itching, pricking sensation, as if tens of thousands of the most minutely-pointed needles were being driven into the flesh of his arm. He tore off the clothing and stood utterly confounded as he saw traced upon it in crimson letters:

"HILDA."

With eyes fixed upon it as one charmed he remained until it slowly faded away, and there was no stain left upon the firm flesh. As one dazed he flung himself into the berth, to see the luminous orbs shining above him until overstrained nature sought the compensation of slumber, and then to dream he was a winged but bodiless spirit floating through unrealistic worlds.

Haggard, unrested, nervous, he arose the next morning, and sought the fresh air of the deck. The steamer was at a wharf, and passengers were going ashore. One glance sufficed to assure him that the girl who was so much of a mystery was among them, and instantly he would have sought her side; but the plank was drawn in and the vessel again upon her way. But all doubts as to personal appearance had been set at rest. There could be but one such pair of eyes in all the world, and mistake was impossible.

She was slight almost to emaciation, tall, fragile. Her complexion had the colorless, transparent white of one largely using arsenic. The features were regular, the mouth particularly mobile and winning, the lips the most burning crimson. The cheeks were sunken, rather than possessing the plumpness natural to her age. The hair was abundant, black, but wanting utterly in glossiness—a dead black—and hung low about her face. The eyes were large, filled with lambent flames, heavily lashed, deeply set and gifted with the most mobile and restless power that draws steel to the magnet. Of her dress he could have told nothing; but the slim hands were ever restless, had the creeping movement of the fingers that reminded him strongly of the paws of some feline animal when its prey is in sight and the sharp claws twitch convulsively in the velvet.

Banish the girl from mind he could not. Her presence seemed to be ever at his side—a shadowy, unreal form, not to be grasped, but still there, and in the darkness her eyes looked not into his, not upon his face, but were shining upon his soul. He endeavored, but in vain, to learn her name, her history, her destination, and from where she came. To others she had been a passenger, nothing more, and, shrinking from the laughter that would follow a statement of her power over him, he locked up the secret, trusting to time for elucidation.

But, do what he might, he could not shake off the impression he had received, could not make himself blind to the supernatural eyes. And day by day the feeling deepened, and he became more and more the slave of some psychological mystery he could neither fathom nor break through. And as the weeks passed he also became aware of a great falling-off of mental and physical force—a strange sapping of the life-fluids, a waning of energy, a sinking into uncertainty of purpose, and a quivering of the will-power. This condition increased until friends noticed it and a physician was called in.

"I feel, doctor," he said, at the conclusion of a long explanation in which everything save the girl had been spoken of, "as one upon whom his blood has been sucked away all night by vampire bats; feel—I can scarcely describe how, save that my vitality is slowly but steadily being drained—a sense of utter 'goneness,' I know no other word to express my meaning, as the unassuming fire, drying up and burning out my being."

"You have few febrile symptoms," was the diagnosis of the man of medicine. "Your tongue denotes no particular disease. Your eyes are clear and in their normal condition, save for a strained, a wistful look. Tonics—something to tone up your system—are all you require. Travel? yes, that would be beneficial."

This advice chimed with the humor of the patient. He had become so restless that remaining in one place was torture. His desire was to be constantly going—whither he cared not and could not decide. North, south, east, west, were alike to him, and he would have lingered unresolved for days had not the decision been made for him, and in a manner that confided very much to the strengthen him in the belief that other powers than those of earth ruled the destiny of men.

After his interview with the physician he wandered listlessly about the city until evening, then returned boarded and prostrated at once on his own room, attended, as he felt, by a strange presence, more than ordinarily obtrusive, and with eyes bended upon him with a radiance that momentarily made bright all surroundings.

"Hilda!" he exclaimed in tones of excitement and longing.

There was no response. He searched everywhere, and could not be satisfied she was but a myth of the imagination. Then, as before, there came a strange sensation to his arm—the pricking of countless needles—and he knew the answer had come.

The bared arm showed in blood-red letters, so charged with phosphorescence as to be plainly seen in the darkness, though the characters were, as traced by a feeble and trembling hand, the single word:

"Oaks."

What did that signify? Was it the name of place or man? If the former, where was it to be found? If the latter, what the remainder—"Oaks?" He could make nothing of it, and for days he sought for explanation, but none came. The flesh remained imprinted by a spiritual type, and his inquiries were useless. Then chance threw in his way an old river-pilot, and from him he learned there was a homestead so called far down the river.

"And," he questioned eagerly, "what of the people who live there?"

The one answer had exhausted the stock of information possessed by the pilot, and he was forced to content himself with the belief that very soon he would stand face to face with them and see with his own eyes.

As one driven by the spur of madness, he made ready, started upon his journey, and at last arrived at a point near his destination.

"De Oaks," said a venerable son of Africa of whom he inquired, "am dat ar place ober on de island. It war de ole home of de Logans befo'e de war."

"And now?" was asked.

"Dunno. Dey am mighty queer people, anyway. Don t nebber go nowhar, and don't nebber see nobody."

Inquiry failed to elicit anything of moment, and it was with difficulty the negro was persuaded to ferry the stranger over the water. Like all of his uneducated race, he was superstitious in the extreme, and anything in the least out of the common affairs of life was to him mystery, and consequently dread. Gold, however, was a temptation not to be resisted, and he rapidly rowed over the little distance and landed his passenger.

"You keep dat dar path and you will come to de house," he said, and then, with a solemn shake of his gray head, he asked: "Massa, hab you got a Bible about you?"

"No. I have no need of one," was the somewhat haughty and contemptuous reply.

"Den you lose you soul!" was the startling prediction, and the negro pulled away as if fearful of danger to his own.

The time, the place, the object of his coming, the strange circumstances of his first meeting with the girl, and her subsequent and almost uncanny influence over him were all upon his mind as causes and awe. The shadows of night had swiftly and darkly gathered. The island (as far as he could see it) was covered with a thick growth of oaks, from which long grass weirdly waved. The path led through dense and tangled vines, that would have been blind and dismal even in the sunshine. But the Fate that chained led him forward, and when the way became too dark for seeing bright, luminous eyes seemed to guide and give light a stars; and when he faltered, the subtle, mysterious pricking upon his arm became so tangible that even as the trained, sensitive finger of the operator can tell what is passing over the wires in the darkness, so could he read the letters as they formed upon his flesh, and had no difficulty in spelling out the word:

"Ogue."

A man of stronger mental and physical formation might have hesitated. He was bound beyond the possibility of resistance. There were cords twined around his very soul he could not loosen, and he commenced ascending the other end drew him along until he stood before a house that in its day had been grand, but now was only partially used, around which the night-wind moaned desolately, and from which no light shone. He felt fingers of ice in his own, but as of fire in thrilling his nerves, touching his own, and—could he be mistaken?—a pale-blue light as one sometimes sees playing about the lips of a corpse floating at night in a tropical sea surrounded the mysterious hand as it led him on, and he heard the echo of dark halls, up winding stairs, until at last he stood before a closed door, dreading to enter, but powerless to retreat.

He was saved decision. As of its own volition the door swung back noiselessly, he was propelled over the threshold by unseen force, and at a single glance upon his memory was stamped all within that chamber, even as a sun-picture, to the most minute detail upon the negative of the photographer.

"I called you, Edward Rawlston, and knew you would come," said the same low, thrilling voice he had heard at midnight upon the deck of the steamer. "My soul went out to yours at our first meeting, and we were bound indissolubly together."

The girl whose autograph had been written in blood upon his arm lay upon a couch in the dress of an invalid. She was even more ethereal than when he had previously seen her—was a mere skeleton—yet her hair still kept its marvelous massiveness and dead blackness, and her eyes seemed to have grown larger, more intense, and to name with electric light.

It was but as the shadow of a hand that waved him to her side, but the shadow of arms that wound about his neck as he knelt there: yet the lips were as burning coals that touched his own, and seemed the key to countless wires reaching to and connected with his own soul.

"You know not, you cannot understand, dear," she continued, as if talking to a lover, while her cold face rested against his hot one, "how strangly we are united. There is no such thing as chance in life. To each is given their affinity, their destiny, and you are mine, as I yours. Perverse and jealous currents sometimes thwart, and love comes not to maturity until after the planting of the grave. Not so with us. I had searched you long, oh, so long, my beloved, but at last found you—saw you face to face, and my fainting soul drew strength from yours. Side by side since then have we walked, with spirit-hand clasped in spirit-hand, and so shall it be forever."

He had no words, no strength, to answer, but sat silently listening to her as she talked to him of things unknown, of mysteries unfathomable to his senses. But one thing he realized in the full, and that there was ever a current flowing from him to her, and that he had no power to check the invisible but deathly tide.

The father and the mother of the girl came often, and sadly ministered to her wants. Tearfully, faithfully, they obeyed her bidding, and without questioning. And now daily came a physician—a man of skill, study and investigation. But as far as any beneficial effect from their drugs were concerned he might as well have stayed away. Yet he came, and failed not to notice that his patient looked better at every visit; that she had more of vitality; was physically stronger, that her pulse was more active, her color better, and her eyes were brighter. Not one to rest contented without knowing the cause as well as the effect, he was not long in finding it. He saw that as the girl grew strong Edward Rawlston grew paler and weaker; that his life was being sapped to feed the spirit of the strange girl even as the lighted wick drawn and consumes the oil—that he was robbed of all of electricity as fast as it could be generated—was being squeezed dry of blood as a sponge under the pressure of a strong hand. This he communicated to Rawlston at the first opportunity, and he made one expressly for the purpose. They were seated upon the bank of the river, beneath the mighty trees, twined and festooned with great vines, and, drawing from them a parallel case, Doctor Ludlam said:

"My young friend, do you realize that you are as one of those oaks, and your fate the same, unless there is speedy relief?"

Rawlston looked at him dreamily, questioningly, wearily, but made no reply, and the physician continued:

"You see that immense vine? It is a parasite; is ever tightening its folds as a constricting serpent might do around the trunk, and eating its way to the heart. Upon the sap of the tree it feeds, and drinks it as fast as produced. The more furnished, the more luxuriant the vine, but the sooner the decay. Do you comprehend the force of the illustration?"

"You mean Hilda and myself? That she is as the vine and I the tree?"

"Certainly. As them you now stand. But such a condition of things cannot continue. The time will come when the tree will be drained to dry death."

"And the vine?" was earnestly questioned.

"Will lose its sustenance, fade, droop and ——"

"Die?"

"Yes. Be warned, therefore, in time. Tear yourself away, and at once. Go with me. My boat is waiting, my negro servants are strong-armed. You can soon be upon a steamer, and go——"

"Whither?"

"Anywhere, so you are not here—so you never see this girl—this basilisk that is charming you by some mysterious power—this human vampire that is sucking your blood even while fanning you to slumber with its wings."

"It is impossible."

"Impossible? Not while you have any manhood remaining? But you would not answer thus if you understood what I have said."

"I do, doctor. I have known for months that my life was being taken away even as the sun drinks dew, and I feel as an animal must when in a cylinder from which air is constantly being exhausted."

"And yet persist in such a suicidal course? Come, you shall go with me. It is the worst of madness, or misery, to remain."

"I cannot. Even now I am called."

"Called? All a mental hallucination. My ears are sharp, and I heard no one."

"Doctor, you know little of the means of communication between spirits. There are telegraphs connecting souls such as the world has no conception of. See?"

He bared his arm, and, skeptical as he was, the physician saw there, as if branded into the flesh, almost letters of the brightest crimson, containing the command:

"Come!"

"I have heard of such things," muttered Doctor Ludlam uneasily, "but deemed them some trick of charlatanism to gull the unwary. This, the evidence of my own eyes, I cannot refuse."

"And my fate, as you see, is sealed. Were I thus bidden to the eternal ice of the Arctic, to the bottom of volcanic crater, to the upper heights of the air or the lowest depths of the sea, I should be powerless to resist."

"Then I will take measures to have you carried away by force."

"It would not avail. The strength of a thousand men would be as nothing. No power on earth can separate those thus united, and I—I—go back to it!"

"Your death!" interrupted the physician, laying his hand forcibly upon his shoulder.

But it was quickly withdrawn, and with the sharp, tingling, half-paralyzed sensation one has when touched by the poles of a battery, or when across his naked flesh crawls an electric-eel, and he would have sworn his finger-tips emitted sparkles as the fur of a cat when rubbed. In all his reading he had never found, in all his practice never seen, anything like this. Man turned into an electric-machine was something he had never dreamed of, and he dared not attempt another test. Yet his heart was keenly moved. He did all possible to isolate Rawlston from the power of the vine, and, failing, nerved himself against any contingency, and watched the result with the deepest professional as well as personal interest. He saw—anyone with the least knowledge would have done the same—that the man grew daily weaker, the girl stronger—that she truly lived on him as the parasite upon the tree, that all the life-giving principle of his body was subservient to hers, that if he ascended, descended, the same body of currents became stronger, but as soon as he returned to her side they were again depleted. And the weaker he became the more she clung to him, the more her arms were about him, the more she sought kisses and gave them in return.

What her parents saw or felt none knew. They were completely reticent—looked as if fire had dried up every feeling in their hearts save only love for their child. She was their first and only thought. To her everything on earth and sea was sacrificed. This was the result both of nature and years of devotion. So if they had seen any man giving his life to their daughter they would have made no mention of it—looked on it as fatality, even if not entirely right, and permitted him to go on even while perfectly understanding what the end must be.

Somewhere Dr. Ludlam had read a poem telling of a fair maiden who cherished a hair from the head of her lover and fed it from her soul until it changed into a viper, and

"Daily ever the monster grew
And lengthened every hour,
And lastly gloated as if it knew
It held her in its power."

In the evening, while making his usual visit, he spoke of it. But the eyes of the girl flashed with such fierce, baleful, dangerous light, and her words were so much like the angry hiss of a serpent, that he was glad to retreat, and never returned upon the theater again, though there often arose in his mind this picture of the poem:

"When fair as a lily she lay at rest,
In a bower of cloth of gold,
Fair as twin lilies her virgin breast,
And the serpent coiled between."

In a fearful silence, and anxiously watched for the coming of the end.

It was nearer than any expected. Closely as he had watched the fluctuations of the strange love, if so it could be called—one that demanded all and gave little in return—he had not dreamed but that the lingering would be long life slowly, very slowly ebb away, and at last go out as a Summer evening when earth, sky and ocean beat with tranquil pulses.

Now and then, as often as possible, the physician lured Rawlston from the side of the girl he had come to love by the strange fatuity that governed his actions. They were rowing swiftly along the river, when an unseen snag pierced the side of the frail craft and forced them ashore upon the mainland. Swimming to the island was impossible, and they were forced to remain until another boat could be procured, and, none being near, it was hours before they again trod the island.

"Twelve o'clock, midnight," said the physician, glancing at his watch as they landed.

"The hour when first I felt the power of her eyes," answered Rawlston, with a shudder, and dashed into the house.

The doctor kept pace with him and entered the room at the same moment. He saw the girl was writhing as one in intense agony, that the strange, unnatural, burning light had almost faded from her eyes, that she was gasping for breath—dying. But instantly there was a great change. With an exclamation of rapture she drew Rawlston to her, pressed her lips to his long and fervently, and the strength came back to her shattered frame, the fire to her eyes, and respiration became strong and almost regular.

"Why did you stay away so very, very long, dear?" she questioned in her strangely sibilant whispers—the tones that fall very gently upon the ear, but thrill the heart.

There was no answer from Rawlston. His arms hung limp and nerveless by his side, his head rested upon her breast. The parasite vine had effectually done its work, and the life so long threatened had been drained dry.

The long absence, the utter exhaustion of the girl upon his return, the immense amount of vitality taken from him to supply the great need, had been too much for one so weakened to endure, and the end had come suddenly.

The physician lifted up the lifeless body, carried it to another room, gave orders as to its care, and returned to watch the conclusion of such a life-tragedy as never was laid down in book, and of which the philosophy of medicine had never penetrated the secret.

Unseen, unheard, the girl turned her head upon the pillow. Her arms were stretched out to grasp some eluding object. Her fingers worked convulsively. Her lips were parted as to draw in falling breath, and her eyes sparkled with luminous, magnetic fires. But very soon they began to fade, to slowly die out, to be utterly extinguished, and death came without a single muscular struggle or sob of pain.

As their lives had been so strangely, so intimately interwoven, it was fitting that they should be buried side by side, and the dead tree and vine, waving gaunt, leafless arms and broken tendrils above their graves, are fitting emblems of their lives.

* * *

"What is you solution of the life and death mystery?" I asked of Doctor Ludlam, after he had concluded the particulars woven into the above story, and to which I had listened with rapt, fascinated attention.

"I have none," he answered, "except it may be animal magnetism, mesmerism, spiritualism, or all combined. But I have told the simple truth. It may be that we do not yet understand the mysterious power and influence of electricity, or that credible effect one mind can have upon another, the influence of nervous, sensitive temperaments highly charged with electricity, the subtelty of what is termed psychology; that we are generally of too gross matter to see such things clearly."

"And you think that when 'the dross of earth is purged away all will be made plain,' doctor?"

"It may be so. Existence here may be but the ripening of souls for the unknown hereafter. Now I can only wonder and surmise. But Heaven keep me from passing through another such experience —seeing such living death."

THE WORLD'S COMMERCE.—Professor Neumann-Spallart of Vienna (in 1879) computes the aggregate volume of the world's commerce at $14,000,000,000. Europe's share is $8,970,000,000, or 71.36 per cent of the total international commerce. The aggregate annual exports of European countries amount to $5,850,000,000, and their imports are $4,336,200,000. The American nations have a total foreign commerce of $2,140,000,000, or 15.30 per cent. of the world's total commerce; their imports amount to $972,800,000; their exports to $1,167,200,000. The share of Asia and the South Sea Islands is: Imports, $438,000,000; exports, $641,800,000. Australia and the islands of the Pacific: Imports, $237,800,000; exports, $224,400,000. Africa: Imports, $134,400,000; exports, $156,600,000. The amount of international commerce per capita in Europe is reckoned at $34.52; America, $25.22; Australia, $21.48; Australasia, $256.77; Africa, $3.62. The total imports of all nations, according to this estimate, sum up $7,474,400,000; the total exports $8,528,600,000. The disparity between the aggregate values of the imports and exports is partly explainable by the fact that the cost of freight, marine insurance and other charges are included in the valuation of imports, whereas exports are estimated at the bare manufacturer's price, undertsood also in many exports of dutiable articles.

TOT.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

Wal, yes, you sir, I s'pose I must
O' that wild night tell auth'n 'bout.
I swar, it melts my blood run cold
To think on't now, for you've failed!
He's han'some, eh? Now, I'd a-smiled
If you'd a-see then—that yar child
War enough to make angels weep, sir—
He got his beauty straight from her
Who war his mother, you know from me,
He runs very plainly my side.
No, sir! She never lived to look
Upon that eye—don't 'ee her book,
You little mortal, critical?
Wal, t'ar away! Your mammy's dead,
An' you have do just what you please,
An'bitesy on long as the bone
Is mischief, Tot; I'll never sour
On you—jist look a' him downy.
That book! by which, in course, I mean,
Jist see him t'ar them leaves out clean!
Eh, what I—I heed her? W'at, the dam
O' little per cub! W'at, stranger, cram
Yersel with dickshenary words,
'Round up' an' 'corral' 'em in herds—
All them as on their feelin' bear
An' of you git more'n you've got hairs,
You can't begin, sir, to express
How I loved her—she was my Bess!
You see—it's thar—a tear for her—
I aint ashamed on't, nuther, sir;
An' now it's time for you an' me
That cutty pate—wich ar' the bub
'Round wich ar' fellied, spoked an' tired
A.t, down low, that's hotly fired—
The love fur Bess, an' love for Tot—
An', stranger, don't forgit it's hot!
Did they kill her? Wal, no, sir, not yet—
The Injuns, no: 'twar fright killed Bess!
But then, in course, they war the cause,
An' so I reckon, they'll be saved.
They struck the cabin 'fore the dawn,
An hour afore the cab war born—
I guessed upon the tear and pause.
But soon—I think it war the fright
That sent him in, his mother out,
O' this yer world—thar aint no doubt
At all o' that—afore ther time.
An' she, my Bess, right in her prime
O' youngness, beauty, innocence,
An' fair an' round an' standin' straight—
I swar, you stranger, 'twar a cup
Too brilliant for this sin'ful sun!
But I war forced to drink it, sir,
Down to the dregs, you may inter.
But I war sayin', stranger, that
The Injins tackled us 'fore yet
The sun war up; an' rough the fight
Wi' bed, you bet—my brother Dwight
War with me then, but scace he's died—
They fetched him on the long divide,
Some scalped, I reckon did—an' fit till day
Lit up the scene o' thet yar fray.
With six dead redskins lyin' round—
We saw 'em by six, but none war found
When sun up hem, all bright an' red,
The livin' bearin' off the dead.
All through the long night day lay ill;
War she to live, then I must kill.
Fur them yar redskins war in force,
An' Dwight an' I war scace a match—
No time had we uv Bess to think—
Thet she war nearer to the brink
Uv Canyon Death than Dwight an' me
I did not dream, no more did he—
We'd on'y time to think thet night
O' feedin' guns to beat on sight;
An' loaded all, an' shoot, you bet—
No quicker shootin' ever yet
Was done by two agin a pack
O' fiends! Crack, crack, it was—crack, crack;
An' now an' then a bullet struck,
An' bro't to yearth a whoopin' buck;
An' now an' then a bullet, too,
A loophole plum' would whistle through.
An' we loaded up an' shot,
Until the sun kem up red hot,
W'en all to once I heard a cry
That staggered me—jist, willnigh—
A pipin' startlin' yell, an' strange—
The like o' thet upon this range
Was never heard afore by me—
The like o' 'Tot sour mammy born!'
Was't him? Of course it was; but—God!
The heavy onto myself—no more—
That's a-why at that wild time, I tho't,
But yet His marcy spared me Tot!
War she—Bess—dead? Yes, stranger—dead,
An' 'fore thet I could reach her bed!
An' I sprung quick, don't you forgit,
An' shot the Injun then I had no bot't.
His mark, an' left it thar a clod—
The livin' part hed gone to God!
Fur Injuns then I hed no bot't.
An' none hed I fur that yar Tot—
He hedn't growed into my heart,
W'ich soon he did, in ev'ry part—
But on'y tho't o' poor dead Bess,
An' raved and cussed—I couldn't bless—
An' cried to Him up thar on high.
To give her back, or lemme die!
An' called on Him w'ich rules in
Your parding, sir, I'll—try—to quell—

Eh, w'at, you, sir—w'at's thet ye say?
Ye wanter tek my Tot away?
Thet is, yer'll'ry an instant,
To do thet thing, ef I kensent;
Will train him in the way to go—
I certing understood ye so
To say, you, sir—war I kerreck?
I war. Then, stranger, of yer neck—
Yer life—ar any 'count, jist dust!
I swar, I've half a mind to bust—
But no, you aint to blame; but git—
Just train him on thet plan, an' quit!
W'at, you tek Tot? Wal, I'll be——!
Tek Tot? Git, quick, or you'll git jammed!
An' know for once an' all, an' ever,
Thet Tot war left by God fur me! SI SLOKUM.

AIRY FAIRY VERE,

OR THE GOLDEN CRESCENT

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY JAMES WIGHT.

A few years ago an excruciating attack of neuralgia in the face, ears and eyes induced me to seek the professional assistance of a French physician of this city, recently arrived. Opium, which at first admit, istered, failed to give me relief; so my physician, who had lived in India and China, and knew something of the beneficent poisons used in those regions, gave me another anodyne, of which he did not tell me the name. It slid into my soul—impermeated itself into every pore and fibre of my body, and filled me with a comfort and a happiness that approached beatitude. But my sleep was not dreamless—some very strange phantasmagoria passed through the chambers of my brain. And hence it came to pass that Doctor S—— and I got to talk about the moral causes of dreaming, the philosophy of dreaming, the prophecy of dreaming, and the sublimity and imperfection of dreaming. Strange people and startling events had connected themselves with the doctor's long professional life, and the conversation on dreams led him to speak of the curious experiences of a patient of his—an Englishman, since dead, whom he had first met at Weisbaden.

"I have a manuscript of his," said the doctor, "and shall be glad to lend it to you, if you say so. It is a sketch of a remarkable period of his own life, and was written while he was recovering, as you see, from a severe illness and flesh-wound, during which I attended him."

Of course I said that nothing would give me greater pleasure. Next day the doctor brought a small roll of manuscript, written in a neat hand. After the customary professional attentions, and with the encouraging opinion that I was much better, the genial physician took his departure. Then I opened the manuscript and read as follows:

When I was seventeen I was a bashful lad, and had seen very little of the world. As for men, all I knew of them had been gathered from books in my mother's library. Our house was in a village in the west of England, and, as my mother lived on her means and rented the best pew in the little church, she might be said to be the lady of the place. The children of my own age, I remember, were very rough and uncouth, and I was not permitted to play with them. Poetry, mathematics and modern languages were my favorite studies and pursuits. When I was seventeen I had written scores of poems, which I imagined to be as good as anything that Shakespeare or Milton could have produced in his teens. Besides, I was in love—in love with my Cousin Emma, four years older than myself, and the "sonnets," "rhapsodies," "odes" and poems impossible to classify that I had addressed to this rare and matchless brunette must have been a revelation in their way. Thank goodness, those inflammatory compositions mounted up in smoke, and took the wings of the wind. There was no poetry in Emma's hem-stitch-and-embroidery soul, and she regularly and uniformly cremated my doggerel.

Reared from my earliest childhood at some distance from any market-town, I had never seen a play up to the hobbledehoy period of which I speak. But I had read some volumes of "The New British Theatre;" and I remember that Mr. Joseph Addison's "Cato," and Mr. Nathaniel Lee's "Theodosius, or the Force of Love," were my favorite tragedies. Shall I ever forget the breathless anticipations of my first night at the little provincial theatre! The play was to be "Theodosius," and when I took my seat on the front row of the "pit" the green curtain in front of me veiled a very Paradise to my imagination. The curtain rose, and all feeling was absorbed in vision. At once Pulcheria, in a wondrous wig with marvelous eyebrows and flaming red cheeks, became my seaborn Venus, fairer to me than

"When the green nymphs first kiss'd her coral lips,
All pollish'd pair, and crown'd with Orient beauty,"

to quote from the play itself.

Between the third and fourth acts of "Theodosius," a young girl danced the famous Cachuca, and Pulcheria was incontinently hurled from her throne in my heart. Then the play was announced as Airy Fairy Vere. She looked lovely—lovelier than any human being I had ever seen. The flush was tenderly bright on her cheeks. Radiant pleasure shone and sparkled in her eyes. Her lithe figure disclosed delicious strength, supple firmness and seductive, serpentine grace. Her arms and limbs had not attained their perfect curves. The coquettish action of her head, the flash of her dark eyes, the mad revelry of her curls, the abandonment of her pirouettes and circling flights, the gleam of her white teeth, the redness of her lips, the intoxication of her smiles, made my bosom a mad, fiery volcano, ready to burst. All her heart was in it—all the vitality of her life seemed pressed into those restless feet and those astoundingly active limbs. In the very access of her mirth and mischief the large red-coral necklace that she wore burst, and the pieces flew all over the stage, and into the orchestra among the four sorry musicians. I was conscious that a portion of it had flown still further. The gold crescent that had dangled in front had actually jumped into my bosom and concealed itself beneath my vest. I felt the blood mount up to my head and suffuse my whole face. This is generally called blushing, and is termed psychology; that we are generally of too gross matter to see such things clearly."

"And you think that when 'the dross of earth is purged away all will be made plain,' doctor?"

"It may be so. Existence here may be but the ripening of souls for the unknown hereafter. Now I can only wonder and surmise. But Heaven keep me from passing through another such experience —seeing such living death."

THE WORLD'S COMMERCE.—Professor Neumann-Spallart of Vienna (in 1879) computes the aggregate volume of the world's commerce at $14,000,000,000. Europe's share is $8,970,000,000, or 71.36 per cent of the total international commerce. The aggregate annual exports of European countries amount to $5,850,000,000, and their imports are $4,336,200,000. The American nations have a total foreign commerce of $2,140,000,000, or 15.30 per cent. of the world's total commerce; their imports amount to $972,800,000; their exports to $1,167,200,000. The share of Asia and the South Sea Islands is: Imports, $438,000,000; exports, $641,800,000. Australia and the islands of the Pacific: Imports, $237,800,000; exports, $224,400,000. Africa: Imports, $134,400,000; exports, $156,600,000. The amount of international commerce per capita in Europe is reckoned at $34.52; America, $25.22; Australia, $21.48; Australasia, $256.77; Africa, $3.62. The total imports of all nations, according to this estimate, sum up $7,474,400,000; the total exports $8,528,600,000. The disparity between the aggregate values of the imports and exports is partly explainable by the fact that the cost of freight, marine insurance and other charges are included in the valuation of imports, whereas exports are estimated at the bare manufacturer's price, undertsood also in many exports of dutiable articles.

FOREIGN SHOW NEWS.

EUROPEAN NOVELTIES.

"The Nine Days' Queen."

Robt. Buchanan's romantic, poetical drama, in four acts

…t important factor will be sustained …ncing moonlight, sunset and storm …e stage. Particular attention has …the stage and scenery, and the very …n their line have been brought from …o to attain the desired perfection. …rter, for many years the principal …California Theatre, San Francisco, is …urtain and scenery. Stephen Gunn, …e California Theatre, has erected and …stage, which has a width of sixty …th of forty-two feet; all the neces… of traps, flies, borders, etc., are in …tage is capable of producing as grand …y play requires. Special exits and …ess in case of an alarm have been …king it possible to empty the house … in every part, within the space of … In fact, no labor or expense has …o insure the perfection of beauty and

BASEBALL.

THE LEAGUE RULES.

CHAPTER THIRD.

Umpire and His Duties.

…he necessities of the game of base… …ity, that the duties of the umpire …r in their multiplicity and importance …eferee or umpire in any other sport …gue; for this reason the position has …requiring almost as much special …nstruction to excel in it as in meas… …in the most important field-position …Indeed, it is far easier to find a …pant for the leading position in a first… …onal team than it is to obtain a suit… …fill the onerous position of umpire. …days of baseball the umpire had fa… …points to decide upon than he now …possessing more power for arbitrary …ear by year have the revised rules of …ened the umpire's opportunities for … action, and year by year have the …ives been so worded as to leave the …ttle else to do than to intelligently in… …according to their expressed letter. Still …of the responsibility formerly attached …himself has been transferred to the …ided by, there yet remains enough to … important that the occupant of the …sition should be a man well posted in … correctly defining the existing laws …since the first organization of the …ciation the problem their legislators …the most difficult to solve at their …ings has been that one in which the …osition of the umpire have been in… …h season's valuable experience has …to bear upon the solution of the mat… …get at the satisfactory consummation … umpire's decisions quietly acquiesced …y decision based on impartiality and …ear. Experience has shown that to …sult umpires must be made a class of … and protected as regular officers of … and the rules must be so amended that … well-worded section can cover to … in their decisions shall be … code. The less the umpire has of … power in rendering a decision the …tial and satisfactory its rulings must …he competing teams and to the betting …tators, and the latter are invariably …as an umpire has to encounter on the …vement in reference to the position …re in League championship contests …w, but nevertheless sure. There has …dy advance, and we think that the …les of the game applicable to the um… …marked the League legislation of 1880 … still further improve that official's

…dment to Section 4 of Rule 54 makes …read as follows: "In case the visiting …ve failed to furnish the name, as pro… …Section 3 of this rule, the home-club …n umpire for such game; and in case …club shall have furnished the names as …d the home-club fails to produce one …the umpires so named within fifteen …ore the hour appointed for commence… …e, the visiting club shall select the um… …clause prohibiting an empire of the …b from acting has been stricken out. …in view of the power to the home-club to …mpire, which they are now likely to …strenuous efforts to do so before, as …their failure to do so the visiting club …their manager or one of their substi…

…rtant feature of the amendments to the …ning the umpire and his duties is that …is now a regular League official, and …e a mere outsider selected to fill a …tion. He is held to a regular responsi… …League as an Association, and not, as …club only. He is now more indepen… …influence than ever before. So long as …he his duty impartially he is sustained …rue, and not by any one club of the …st season not a single team were …ithdraw from the field on account of …they had to any alleged partiality in …is decisions. This was a decided im… …and we hope to see next season a still …ovement in the absence of any abuse …t the hands of the spectators, …to the scoring, the only important …was that restoring the old headings …which now are as follow: A. B., at …1 B., first-base hits; S. B., second base… …al players put out; A., times players …aving out; and E., fielding errors com… …charge was made in the matter of …pitcher with a fielding assistance …batsman is put out on a foul strike, …is that it is impossible to judge of …ing skill by the averages which are …data. Such assistance belongs solely …r's score, and cannot be rated as a …ance. By mixing it up with pitcher's …ance records a pitcher becomes cred… …verage of fielding which he is not …fielder. Assistances should be credited …unless by such assistance he helps …put out a batsman or base-runner, …whether hit fair or foul. All other …as that of the pitcher in putting out …uld be recorded in the pitcher's score.

RUNNING THE BASES

…most neglected point of the game, …ugh this respect is within the …one. Moderate excellence, how… …be attained by the constant practice …special, underlined carefully. The …led all of the League clubs in base… …Providence stood foot of the list in …the Chicago-Cleveland game on May …by an exhibition of base-running …e Chicagos that is seldom been …ll-field. It was absolutely disgusting …upety their opponents by its very …ness. In no former game were three …en found members of single-baasers. …ut of a substitute base-runner …able controversy in a Knicker… …game at San Francisco. Dolan …ed to perform that service for …ever, ran the bases himself, mak… …hit. After considerable altercation …n, the umpire decided that Barnie …d course. In a Chicago-National …ir made first base on his hit, a man …nce there to run in his place for him. …the baseball, the Nationals were …y, taking advantage of this, ran …altitude, and safely reached second …rise to dispute, which the um… …favor of the Chicagos. Brown …themselves from being blanked …r Club on April 29 by Dilts' steal …e passed ball, which Gross …r, thinking that a base-runner …third. Shafer scored the tieing …and-Cincinnati contest on Sept. 8 …ning. He had made first on a …second, when a ball was …cher, who put it up in his hand and …. The short-stop and second… …no place to put, but neither got to …hile, with the ball inside the …me, Shafer had reached third …me. The ball was promptly …, but Shafer made a slide under …Shafn. It was a daring but suc… …, that undoubtedly saved the …ing championship contest be… …s and Knickerbockers of San …Carey made the winning …r circle by an audacious steal …on the third base with two …the catcher, playing up close …egan to edge up homeward, …ing returned to the pitcher …ne—a feat so audacious that it …nded the pitcher, and his sur… …e was unable to take a firm …kept on juggling it till Carey …e home-plate and was en… …of his congratulating asso… …Hines also won games for the …Clubs, respectively, by delib… …on the pitcher and catcher. …ers individually displayed …inning of the season of 1880, …on several occasions accom… …ught to be attempted much …runners, viz., playing a long …hen the catcher threw to the …ad him off he would run for …ly.

…E IN ARIZONA.

…celebrated at Phœnix, Ari… …f a game between the Phœ… …ty and the Norvell Club of …latter being composed of …U. S. Infantry. These nines …hen the soldiers won after a …e of innings, the civil… …d the result on the present …k of batting in the second …to pull off the victory, al… …ade a gallant up-hill fight. …est hit of the game and …) was credited with the best …e acknowledged champion …red finely in that position …ontest was witnessed by a …tators, among whom were …ested great interest in the …ciding game between these …played at Port McDowell.

	Norvell.	O.	R.
4	Welters, s. s.	3	0
1	Brill, c.	3	1
2	Seppl, p.	3	1
1	Carroll, 2d b	3	1
1	Doherty, 1. f.	3	0
2	Stevens, 3d b.	3	1
0	Donevan, c. f.	3	0
1	Henry, 1. f.	3	0
1	Hart, 1st b.	3	0
13	Totals	27	5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8—R.
	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0—5

…—The difficulty between …has been settled, and the …a contract for the coming …the team, who will include …urcell as pitchers; Ken… …; Phillips or Smith, first …; Mcgeary, third base and …stop; Shafter, right field, …d a change-catcher in the …Smith has been playing …of San Francisco for the …aid to be one of the best

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BASEBALL IN CUBA.

The second ten of the Almendares Club defeated the recently organized Fe team on the former's ground, at Havana, Dec. 26, by the appended score:

Almendares.	O.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.	Fe.	O.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.
Alvarez's s	5	1	1	2	0	2	Tesma, c	5	1	1	9	4	0
J. H'rin'n, 3d b	5	1	1	0	0	1	Diaz, s. s	4	1	1	2	4	0
J. Nugent, c	5	0	0	12	0	2	Salvarria, cf	4	1	1	0	0	0
Lasada, 1d b	5	1	1	7	0	0	Alvarez, 3b	4	1	2	1	4	0
Torres, s. s	4	1	1	1	1	0	Moralez, 2. b	4	0	2	4	2	0
Granados, rf	4	1	1	1	0	0	Gobel, p.	4	0	0	0	6	0
Gobel, p.	4	0	0	0	5	0	Bray, 1d b	4	0	0	8	0	2
Planas, c.	4	0	2	0	0	0	Cadzarro, lb	4	0	0	9	1	1
Lujas, p.	4	1	1	0	4	1	Marin, p.	4	0	0	0	1	1
Duenas, lb	4	0	1	12	0	0	Martinez, lf	4	0	0	1	0	1
Delabat, l. f.	4	0	1	0	0	0	Olivera, r. s.	4	2	2	2	2	1
Totals	46	10	8	37	11	5	Totals	41	9	8	37	11	14

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8—R.
Almendares	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	5	0—10
Fe	0	0	2	0	0	5	1	0	0—9

Umpire, Mr. Bellan. Matanzas Baseball Club. Time, 2h. 15m.

A GAME ON THE ICE.

The first of a contemplated series of weekly games on the ice was played Jan. 1 at Chicago, Ill., by nines captained respectively by Ed. N. Williamson and Al. G. Spalding. The attendance was large, and the spectators were well pleased with the sport. Al. Spalding's team, being the best skaters, won by the following score:

Spalding's.	T.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.	WILLIAM'S.	T.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.
Spalding, lb.	6	6	5	4	3	2	Willis's'n, c.	7	4	4	9	2	1
Tod, c	6	3	3	9	2	1	Morton, p	5	2	2	1	2	1
Guth, p	6	4	4	2	5	2	Quest, 2b	5	2	3	3	4	3
Flint, 1b	6	4	4	5	0	3	Dairy'ple, 1b	5	3	3	5	4	3
Sc'wn'g'r, ss	6	3	3	2	3	2	Cook, s. s	5	0	0	0	0	0
Forrest, 3d b	5	3	3	3	1	0	Hibbets, ss	5	0	1	2	3	0
Davis, s. f.	5	1	1	0	0	2	O'Neil, 3d b	4	2	2	1	1	0
Brown, r. f.	5	1	1	1	0	0	Hines, r. f.	4	2	1	0	0	1
Chapin, l. f.	5	3	2	1	1	2	Waters, l. f.	4	3	2	0	0	2
Totals	56	31	30	29	15	14	Totals	47	22	20	18	9	19

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8—R.
Spalding's side	4	3	3	3	3	5	6	4	0—31
Williamson's side	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	5—22

Umpire, Van Dyke.

THE BUFFALO CLUB directors held a meeting Jan. 4, when they decided to increase the stock to $7,000, and discontinue the issuing of season-tickets. The salary-list of the team for 1881 will be nearly $14,000. The directors are now negotiating with a professional manager for next season.

THE RING.

BILLY EDWARDS' EXHIBITION

was attended by enough admirers of boxing to fill the seating and the greater part of the standing room on the main floor of Terrace Garden Theatre, this city, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 5; consequently the ex-champion light-weight realised sufficient profit to easily tide him over the Winter and insure himself the luxury of a Spring suit when balmy breezes come again. As an entertainment it was one of the very best of its class that has been given here for a long time, and nobody regretted going to this somewhat inconveniently-located building on so unpleasant an evening. There was considerable delay in getting started; but the ball once set going it rolled along uninterruptedly, "talent" being as plentiful as it was excellent in quality. The initial set-to was between McMullen and Mack, a couple of youths who evince improvement in their favorite exercise. They were followed by Prof. Kimball and little daughter, who swung Indian-clubs, executing a variety of movements with precision and grace, while the latter evinced considerable skill in juggling the implements. Next came Julius Cæsar and Charley Cooley, colored boxers, in a display which convulsed the spectators with laughter, though it was scarcely so amusing to the performers. George Rooke and Harry Lanin followed in a bout which was interesting, and, although George showed to the greater advantage, Lanin, who is a splendidly-built young fellow, proved himself possessed of considerable knowledge of the manly art. An exhibition of Græco-Roman wrestling was then given by Clarence Whistler and his trainer, Sam Berry, the latter being awarded a fall at the end of about twenty minutes, the greater part of which time they were on all-fours on the carpet, and Whistler evidenced the possession of sufficient strength to do pretty much as he pleased with his opponent when he cared to exert it. A supple youth rejoicing in the soubriquet of "Young America" now entertained the spectators with a creditable display of contortionism and tumbling, for which he was applauded right heartily. Arthur Chambers of Philadelphia and Patsy Sheppard of Boston next electrified the lovers of genuine boxing with one of the finest set-tos ever made by any couple, the display being so pleasing that the appearance was vociferously demanded, and they were obliging enough to accede to the unanimous wish of the onlookers. They were succeeded by Jerry Murphy and Allen, who, despite the disparity in their size, made an excellent display, Murphy, who is considerably the smaller lad, standing well up to his work, doing most of the leading and having the best of the hitting, while he evaded danger cleverly. Jack Cash and Paddy McDermott next had a go, which finished tamer than it commenced. Cash was as impetuous as usual, but he had a good man in front of him, and when they left off honors were about even. Mike Donovan and Jerry Leary then gave an exhibition, in which the latter got over the big stage as a fair rate, with Mike following him up, Jerry, who received much more than a crave, reminding one of poor Johnny Grady by the way the gutteral sounds emitted upon receiving or delivering a good sock-dolager. Mc. McGlinchy and Wm. C. McClellan, clad in show boxing-suits, were then guilty of an exhibition such as any man professing sparring skill ought to be ashamed to be a party to. They hopped about the stage like a pair of jumping-Jacks, playing at tag as it were, and scarcely ever getting near enough to exchange good blows, but barely tapping each other, and displaying what they are pleased to fancy their superior agility and perfection in the art of dodging. They were laughed at by the spectators, who, after failing in an effort to induce them to "come down to business" when they faced each other for the fourth time, vented their disgust in a volley of hisses. This ought to prevent the two Macs from ever making such a mistake again. Pat Jourdan and McGraw followed, and when they retired Tommy Drohan of Boston and Frank White made their appearance. The former, besides being the taller and most muscular man of the two, is also decidedly the more skillful, and he certainly had the upper hand. Frank sticking to him pluck, but failing to get in his right with effect, Drohan got a trifling out of distance when it was swung. It was a satisfactory set-to, but the Boston boy could have done better had he desired. Next came a display of collar-and-elbow wrestling by Wm. Johnson and Steve O'Donnell, in which the superiority of the former was manifest. He won the first fall by hipping the latter got the second by a left outside stroke, and Johnson took the next in short order by a right trip-and-throw. Two amicable then boxed each other as well as lads lacking in science can be expected to, winding up the uninteresting display with a fall for each; and then Billy Edwards and Harry Hicken of Philadelphia, appeared for the "wind-up." The latter was in no condition for lively work, and was therefore placed at a disadvantage when facing a man who is never caught out of fix; but he is possessed of fine science, and he performed exceedingly well. Edwards, while not vicious, sent out the dangerous right with vigor at proper range several times; but Hicken was on the lookout for it, and succeeded in either breaking the force of the intended knockdown argument, or, better of course, in dodging, let it pass harmlessly over his head. They were busy both hands continuously, each hitting and stopping well, and visitations to face and body were frequent on both sides. There neither got out of temper. So satisfactory did they perform that they were called out, and had to favor the spectators with a fourth round, which was nearly as good as the three preceding ones. Shortly after Harry was in difficulties with his air-pumps. They were vociferously applauded as they retired. Uncle Bill Tom Rowe was master of ceremonies, and was as attentive to his onerous duties as usual.

THE GOSS-SULLIVAN SHOW.

The exhibition given at Music Hall, Boston, Mass., on Monday evening, Jan. 3, for the joint benefit of Joe Goss and John Sullivan, was a complete success, a big crowd being present, while the sparring was first-rate from commencement to conclusion. The most exciting set-to of the evening was that between Pete McCoy and Ed. McGlinchy, who had evidently made up their minds to do the best they knew how, and, as both are very clever, the meet was a treat to the lovers of slogging. From the accounts we have received we judge that McCoy had the upper hand throughout the three rounds, planting considerably oftener than his antagonist. Indeed it is stated by men who ought to know that McCoy never performed so well before. In the last round, which was particularly lively, he saved himself from going off the stage by grabbing McGlinchy, who then ceased forcing matters, and they returned to the centre. They were at it again instantly, and then McCoy succeeded in fighting his man clean off the stage. Resuming operations, they fought away with both hands to the edge of the stage, when Ed. pushed Pete, who, to save himself, jumped off backwards to the main floor. This ended the set-to, which created intense excitement. When they quit, McGlinchy was bleeding from an abrasion of the skin on his nose. The combatants had some hot words after retiring to the dressing-room, McGlinchy asserting that he could "do" Pete easily, and McCoy saying that if Ed. would put up some money he would cover it promptly, and either fight or spar him. The most artistic set-to of the entertainment was that between Tom Sheppard and Billy Madden, but with two such accomplished boxers facing each other the display could not be anything else than first-class. Billy Edwards and Mike Gillespie also had a pleasing engagement, the hitting being in favor of the ex-champion. Sullivan and Jack Stewart's meet resulted in a discolored optic for the latter, who had no sort of business with the young Irishman. The wind-up was between the beneficiaries, and was a disappointment to those who unreasonably anticipated a repetition of the lively work witnessed when they first came together, some months ago. It was a neat exhibition of science, but utterly devoid of hurtful exchanges, and too tame to please the spectators. The others who used the mittens during the evening were Tom Drohan and Tim McCarthy, Tony O'Hara and J. J. Bagley, John Connelly and Fred Scott, Seelye and Silvie, Jerry Murphy and Young English, Fred Scott and Charley Docherty, and Old Bill Busby and D. Kelly. Edwin Bibby and Duncan C. Ross also wrestled, catch-as-catch-can, neither gaining a fall during the half hour they were upon the stage. Tom Narley acted as M. C.

JAMES CAMPBELL,

for many years director of amusements at Harry Hill's Sporting Theatre, this city, will be recipient of a testimonial benefit there on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 13. Great preparations have been made to make this one of the principal indoor sporting events of the season, and those who visit the famous old resort may rest assured that they will be well entertained by the members of the boxing and wrestling fraternity, aided by the variety troupe who nightly appear on the stage, strengthened by new faces. One of the announced features is a mixed wrestle, collar-and-elbow and catch-as-catch can styles, between Gaston Snell, formerly of Cornwall, Eng., and Frank Moody of Portland, Me., while John McMahon and Wm. L. Kennedy "will oblige." John L. Sullivan, the Boston heavyweight, is at the head of the list of those announced to spar. It commences at 8 P. M.

TOM MCALPINE is again on a visit to the metropolis, after a sojourn of about five years on the slope Pacific, during which he did some fighting and made his debut in the pedestrian arena. "Soap" looks well, and is glad to be back among old friends, but will probably not remain in this section a great while, as his is a roaming disposition, and the Golden Gate will doubtless be again honored with his presence ere the lapse of many moons. He returns thanks to James A. Fisher of "The Arcade," Denver, Col., and Johnny Howland of "The Coliseum," Kansas City, for favors extended.

JIM MACE AND PROF. MILLER

gave a joint exhibition at the Academy of Music, Adelaide, South Australia, in November, and did very well. The journey overland from Melbourne to Adelaide occupied nearly three days, and in a letter Miller relates the following amusing incident of the trip: "We were going through the bush in the overland coach along a very narrow road, when right ahead of us, about fifty yards, was a wild bull kept at bay by a couple of dogs. The coach was full of people, and we had to knock down a wire-fence and go through a paddock to avoid the animal, who made an attempt to rush at us, but the dogs kept him back. Mace had one leg out of the coach, and was ready for a hundred-yards dash. Jim's eyes danced like those of a turtle in convulsions, and I could see that he intended to give master bull a very wide b...th. We were all intent on doing the same thing, but, as Mace is a good runner, he would no doubt have headed us all. However, we succeeded in escaping the vicious quadruped, and then could afford to laugh at the fears which our disagreeable predicament had given rise to." Mace and Miller contemplated making a tour of the colonies at an early day.

JOHN DONALDSON had few spectators and few sparrers at his benefit at Home Circle Hall, Cincinnati, O., Jan. 5. Those who boxed were Dick Goodwin and Johnny Kingsley, Sullivan and Stevens (amateurs), and Donaldson and Tom Kelly.

TOM CURRAN, the well-known Australian boxer and former champion of the colonies, is now a publican and farmer, keeping the Swan Hotel, at Stratford-on-Avon, Gippsland.

CURLING.

TORONTO vs. CALEDONIAN.

The annual match between the Toronto (Ont.) Curling Club and the Caledonian Curling Club of Buffalo, N. Y., for the Thomson-Scoville medal, was played at the Pearl-street Rink, in the latter city, on Wednesday, Jan. 5. This was the thirteenth contest for this handsome gold trophy, and it was played on unusually fine ice, the time occupied being nearly five hours. The score is appended:

Buffalo.	Rink No. 1.	Toronto.
John Buchheit,	Rev. Dr. Barclay,	
Allen M. Adams,	John Duthie,	
Charles Oelnk,	J. D. Henderson,	
Charles Berrick, skip	16	J. G. Heward, skip 26
	Rink No. 2.	
Henry Smith,	Thomas McGaw,	
S. M. Kyrr,	W. S. Keith,	
W. H. Baker,	T. Grier,	
Wm. Moses, skip	24	D. Walker, skip 31
	Rink No. 3.	
J. B. Bigham,	Charles Davidson,	
Wm. Brown,	D. Chrisile,	
George Macnoe,	H. Fish,	
David Bell, skip	23	Charles Ferry, skip 15
	Rink No 4.	
Charles Holloway,	John Bain,	
John Walls,	T. S. Russell,	
George Buchheit,	W. Bayly,	
L. Kirkover, skip	16	John Riddell, skip 27
Total, 84.		Total, 99.

Majority for Toronto Club, 15.

A sleigh-ride followed the contest, and after that the victorious Canadians were entertained at a banquet at the Tift House, where a jolly good time was had.

UTICA CURLING CLUB.

On New-Year's Day a game was played by the President and Vice-president rinks of this club, the contest was not a fair trial of the respective rinks. The ice was in fine condition. The score:

President.	Rink No. 1.	Vice-president.
W. G. Walker,		T. H. Hollingworth,
A. H. Munson,		Edwin Peckham,
John Feattle,		Jas. G. French,
J. C. P. Kincaid, skip	16	Chas. S. Taylor, skip 20
	Rink No. 2.	
T. Savage,		F. Meyers,
G. S. Allen,		I. Whiffen,
Dr. H. Sloan,		Benj. Allen,
W. B. Taylor, skip	18	W. F. Allen, skip 8

Total for President's side, 51. Total for Vice-presidents', 28.

The point-game will be played soon. The club would be pleased to arrange matches with other clubs, and are all happy to welcome strangers. Curlers on their way through this city are cordially invited to peep in on their brethren.

ATHLETIC.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF AMERICA.

At last a date has been set and definite arrangements made for the third contest for the belt offered by Daniel O'Leary, originally won by Nick Murphy, and now held by Fred Hart. The agreement, now for the first time published, is as follows:

Memorandum of agreement made and entered into this 20th day of December, 1880, between Frank H. Hart, Boylston, Mass., U. S. A., party of the first part, John Ennis, Stamford, Ct., U. S. A., party of the second part, and (here will be inserted the names of all future challengers) parties of the second part, and Daniel O'Leary, New York City, U. S. A., party of the third part, witnesseth, whereas the said party of the first part is the holder of the O'Leary belt, representing the championship of pedestrianism of America; and the said parties of the second part have each challenged him to compete for the same under the conditions by which the belt was held; and the said party of the third part is also desirous of competing for the same with which it is now in the building known as Madison-square Garden, New York City, commencing Monday, Feb. 28, 1881, at 12.05 A. M., and ending Saturday, March 5, 1881, at 10.05 P. M., a total of 142 consecutive hours. Each of the contestants who shall, during the above-mentioned 142 consecutive hours, travel on foot the greatest number of miles, or further than that distance, shall be declared the winner, in accordance with the distance traveled by him, and shall receive his proper share of the gate-money, as hereinafter provided, and shall be declared the possessor of the belt, subject to its published rules, and his proper share of the profits. The said party of the third part hereby agrees to procure the Garden for the purpose of holding all needed preparations, put in a suitable track for the race, make comfortable quarters for the contestants, do the necessary advertising and billposting, sell all the privileges of the Garden to the highest responsible bidders, and collect the amounts due for the same, pay all bills and expenses of the affair of every kind and nature connected therewith, and manage and conduct the contest, from start to finish, in the same general style as the former races for the Astley belt and O'Leary belts, and in accordance with detailed specifications to be furnished by the stakeholder. For these services and outlays the said party of the third part hereby agrees to pay to James E. Kelly, party of the second part, the sum of $1,000, as follows: First, the amount in full of all his disbursements on account of the race, and secondly, ten per cent. of the gross receipts of the race, which gross receipts shall include all moneys received for admission and also from the sale of privileges. The said party of the third part hereby agrees to pay all moneys from admission and privileges, after deducting his portion as described above, shall pay the remainder to W. B. Curtis of the *New York Clipper* of the *Times* of New York City, to be by him divided according to the conditions in accordance with the rules of the O'Leary belt. It is further mutually agreed by the parties to this contract that one hundred thousand admission-tickets shall be furnished by the American Bank-note Engraving Company and numbered consecutively from one upward, the odd numbers to be ticket-office, and the even numbers to be sold at the entrance-gate. There shall be two different kinds of tickets, the price of each kind, numbered from one upwards, and in each ticket-office they must be kept distinct from each other, continuing to sell upwards, so that the last ticket sold in each office will represent the total number sold. Frank H. Hart and John Ennis, for the first and second parts, will appoint a sufficient number of their friends to act in the collection of tickets, and also select and have one man in each ticket office at all times, and they will be to see that the tickets are sold in accordance with their agreement. The contestants, or as many of them as wish so to do, shall have the right to select and appoint agents, who shall represent them, and be paid by them, and by them only. These agents shall have free access to the accounts of the box-office, and be afforded every opportunity to watch the sale and collection of tickets, and their final counting. Those contestants who do not consider these agents necessary, shall not be compelled to contribute to their payment. It is expressly understood and agreed by the party of the third part that no one of the contestants shall be responsible or liable for any of the bills or expenses of the affair, in any way or for any purpose. It is expressly understood and agreed by all parties to this contract that the contestants shall have no tents nor buildings in the inner ring, other than space shall be placed apart for the use of spectators. It is hereby expressly understood by all interested parties that the stakeholder is authorised, and empowered to decide all differences of opinion between the parties of the first, second and third parties, and in case of any misunderstanding between the parties to this agreement the stakeholder shall decide in accordance with the spirit and meaning of these articles, as explained above. We, the undersigned, parties of the first, second, and third parts, do hereby accept and abide by each and every one of the several clauses of the above articles, and in witness thereof have appended our several signatures, as follow:

(Witness) W. B. CURTIS. FRANK H. HART.
W. B. CURTIS. JOHN ENNIS.
W. B. CURTIS. JAMES E. KELLY.

ROSS vs. BIBBY.

The outcome of the exhibition wrestle between D. C. Ross the Scotch athlete and Edwin Bibby at Goss and Sullivan's benefit in Boston, Mass., Jan. 3, has been a match between them, to wrestle in catch-as-catch-can style. Ross covered the money left with Bibby's challenge, and a meeting was held at The Clipper office on Thursday, 6, when the following agreement was signed:

Articles of agreement entered into this sixth day of January, 1881, between Edwin Bibby and Duncan C. Ross, to wrestle a match, catch-as-catch-can style, according to Ed. James' rules, best three falls out of five, for two hundred and fifty dollars a side. Said match to take place in a public hall in New York City, N. Y., between the 20th and 30th of the present month; Mr. Bibby to allow Mr. Ross fifty dollars as expenses for coming to New York. It is hereby agreed that the winner of the match shall have the stake-money, shall also receive two-thirds of the gate-money after deducting expenses, and the loser one-third. The sum of one hundred and fifty dollars has been this day deposited by the respective parties with Frank Queen of The New York Clipper; the remainder, one hundred dollars, to be deposited at The Clipper office at least three days before a set-to shall take place, when a final stakeholder and a referee shall also be appointed. The referee of The Clipper Hill will be agreeable to both contestants as referee, Either party failing to comply with the above agreement to forfeit all money deposited up to date.

Witness: B. HENDERSON. DUNCAN C. ROSS.
EDWIN BIBBY.

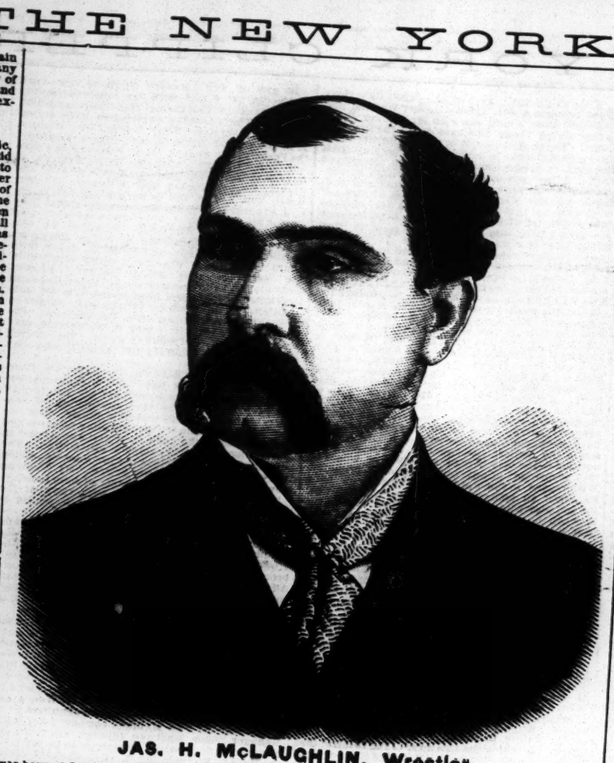
BEST-OF-WAY RACE.—Thomas H. Noonen is the manager of a twenty-four-hour go-as-you-please race, open to all amateurs, which is to take place at Wood's Athletic Grounds, North Ninth and Second streets, Williamsburg, L. I., Feb. 21, 22, commencing at 10 P. M. The first prize will be a silver tilting set, valued at $100; second, a similar trophy, value $50; third, a silver ice-pitcher, value $25. These prizes can now be seen at H. Plonsky's, in the Old Post-office Building. The entrance-fee is $3, and entries close Feb. 12, with Thomas H. Noonen, No. 6 Old Post-office Building, New York City. The ground is covered, and the track is one-sixteenth of a mile round.

THE CLINTON ATHLETIC CLUB of Brooklyn, N. Y., last week elected the following officers: President, E. A. Barry; vice-president, Thomas Barwick; treasurer, Charles McCambly; financial secretary, James Bridges; corresponding secretary, Arthur Barwick; captain, Arthur Cale; lieutenant, Joseph Cale; trustees—J. A. Hastings, W. G. Rothwell, William Voorhees and C. A. Byrne. Address all communications to Arthur Barwick, 21 John street, New York.

CHARLES A. HARRIMAN announces a tournament of seventy-five consecutive hours, for prizes of $150, $75, $50 and $25, to take place at Smyth's Opera-house, Manchester, N. H., under his management, Feb. 2 to 5. For particulars consult advertisement.

A. W. SINCLAIR, amateur, proposes to attempt the feat of walking 21 miles in 3 hours at Little Bridge, London, Eng.

A PARTY of English bicyclists are announced to start for New York March 22, for the purpose of visiting the principal cities.



JAS. H. McLAUGHLIN, Wrestler,

was born at Oriskany, Oneida County, N. Y., June 8, 1844. His father was Scotch, and his mother a native of Kings County, Ireland. His first wrestling match occurred at Binghamton, N. Y., when he was only fifteen years of age, but even then the boy was a big lump of a boy, weighing 185lb. Hiram McKee, a brawny Scot of twice his years, was his opponent, and was defeated for a stake of $100 a side. Stung by defeat, McKee taunted the victorious boy beyond endurance, when the latter collared him upon the village-green, and, after a brief tussle, threw him with such violence as to break one of his legs. McKee was in hospital for several weeks. In the Fall of 1860 McLaughlin defeated Luke Loucks at Oneida Castle, N. Y., for a stake of $100 a side. At the beginning of the Rebellion he enlisted as private in the Twenty-sixth New York infantry, and for bravery and meritorious conduct was promoted to a captaincy. Subsequently he was transferred to the Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry, and rose to the rank of Major. While in the army McLaughlin had many contests with his fellow-soldiers, and won them all. His most formidable opponents were Duval Wilcox, whom he defeated at Fort Lyon, Va., in 1861, for a purse of $400 in gold, the struggle lasting three hours, and Corporal Corrigan of the Twenty-seventh New York, whom he vanquished at Fort Ellsworth for a purse of $300. His first match after the war was with Louis Ainsworth, at the old Empire Rink, New York Park, May 14, 1866, "for $1,000 a side and the championship of America," defeating him easily. In 1867, he defeated Homer Lane of New York at Mechanics' Hall, Newark, N. J., in a similar match. Sept. 1 of the same year he again met Lane at Devereaux Hall, Oneida, under the same conditions, and suffered his first defeat. In 1870, Col. McLaughlin went to Detroit, Mich., to participate in a wrestling tournament. Up to this time there had been no trophy emblematic of the championship of America, but at this tournament a valuable belt was offered, open to all collar-and-elbow wrestlers. The tournament opened at Young Men's Hall March 10, 1870, seventy-eight gentlemen contesting for the belt thereafter, and he was defeated in Titusville, Pa., on April 30 following. On Dec. 6, 1870, he defeated Joseph J. Benjamin of Washington, D. C., for $1,000 and the belt, at Pittsville, where, on Feb. 4, 1871, he also vanquished Nathan Borrance of Chicago. The loser again challenged McLaughlin, and was again defeated at the same place June 19, 1871. On June 29 following McLaughlin issued through THE CLIPPER a challenge to wrestle any man in the world, "catch-as-catch-can, right hand to collar, for from $1,000 to $10,000 a side; his deposit of $200 remained for months uncovered, and finally was withdrawn. Thereupon he claimed the world's championship. By default McLaughlin now removed from the Oil Regions to Detroit, where he secured a situation as passenger-conductor on the Detroit and Lansing Railroad, and was not again heard of in the athletic arena until Feb. 14, 1875, heard of in wrestled Michael Whalen, alias "Corduroy," a big policeman of San Francisco, at Platt's Hall, Feb. 14, 1875, in that city, for $2,500 a side. McLaughlin won two consecutive falls and the match, and his backers pocketing, it was stated, himself and $15,000 as the result. Resuming his railroad duties, McLaughlin did not wrestle again until Jan. 4, 1876, when he defeated J. J. Benjamin of Washington, D. C., at the Detroit Opera-house, Detroit, winning two straight falls. The price of tickets ranged from $1 to $3 each, and the actual cash receipts were upwards of $4,000. During 1876 followed McLaughlin's three contests with Jacob H. Martin, the "Butcher Boy" of Ypsilanti, Mich. The first, at the Detroit Opera-house, March 23, for $500 a side, broke up in a row and was decided a draw; the second, at Whitney's Opera-house, Detroit, June 20, terminated similarly after the men had wrestled until sunrise without either gaining a fall; the third took place at Central Park Garden, New York, Oct. 16, when McLaughlin won the first and third falls. After this McLaughlin remained in and about New York for several weeks, and on Dec. 7, 1876, at Harry Hill's Theatre, he gave an exhibition-wrestle with Charles Murphy, whom he defeated in two straight falls. In this contest McLaughlin severely injured his left ankle, and he was still crippled when he was defeated by the late James Owens of Fairfield, Vt., in a match announced as for the championship, on Dec. 28 following, at Music Hall, Boston. The belt won at Detroit was not in controversy. McLaughlin then returned home and paid forfeit to John McMahon, with whom he had a match pending at San Francisco, Cal. On Feb. 21, 1877, at the Opera-house, Utica, N. Y., McLaughlin defeated John Cavanagh, gaining two consecutive falls. At the same place, March 5 following, he wrestled Thiebaud Bauer a mixed match, catch-and-elbow, Græco-Roman, and catch-as-catch-can, which resulted in a wrangle. This was McLaughlin's first match at any style outside of Whitney's Opera-house, Detroit, he defeated Bauer under the same conditions, winning the collar-and-elbow and catch-as-catch-can bouts. McLaughlin then became a passenger-conductor on the Canada Southern Railway, and attended strictly to business until the Fall of 1878, when he was defeated by John McMahon of Bakerfield, Vt., collar-and-elbow, at McCormick's Hall, Chicago (McLaughlin then weighing 265lb), Nov. 4, at the same place, Dec. 14 following, collar-and-elbow, in harness, McLaughlin turned the tables, defeating McMahon. Jan. 18, 1879, at Whitney's Opera-house, McLaughlin wrestled Clarence Whistler, Græco-Roman, with Lucien Marc (who fraudulently represented himself as

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Movements, Business, and Incidents of the Theatrical, Circus, Musical and Minstrel Professions.

CLIPPER POST-OFFICE.

☞ A STAMPED ENVELOPE, plainly addressed must be inclosed for each and every letter, and the line of business followed by the party addressed should be given, in order to prevent mistakes.

☞ Postal cards unsealed and others should bear in mind that, by a late change in the postal laws, all letters, etc., in transit between the United States and Canadas, must be prepaid, otherwise they are not forwarded.

☞ The following remained uncalled for at the Clipper Post-office, Nassau-street, New York City, when the list for the week ending 5 P. M. MONDAY, Jan. 10, was received:

LADIES' LIST.

Anderson, Mary Alma, Georgia
Ashton, Mrs. J. R.
Arnold, Lu-lu
Boshell, Ada
Bennett, Kazza
Bell, Bessie (3)
Brower, Mrs. Carrie
Bateman, Alice
Benson, Mrs. Geo. H.
Bryan, Edna
Bryton, Josie
Bell, Hattie L.
Barnes, Maude (4)
Catlett, Lew
Cassell, Mrs. Fannie C.
Cole, Lena
Cassell, Mrs. Fannie C.
Corelli, Blanche
Cardigan, Cora
D'Orme, Milo
Dempsey, Louise (2)
Demoguco, Manzona Olallor J.
DeMontague, Mrs. M.
Derious, Lizzie
Davenport, Fanny
Delard, Hattie
Etta, Mlle.
Eytinge, Rose
Eberley, Mrs. Eugene
Ellaler, Effie
Frey, Mrs. H. Sc.
Fontainbleau, Lenore
Fisk, May(2)
Fielding, Mrs. Maggie
George, Stella
Grant, Alice (act ress W.)
Gallagher, May
Garland, Louise
Glenn, Carrie
Gilmore, Alice
Graham, Rose
Haddeld, Nellie
Howard, Carrie (p. o. mark Liverpool, Eng.)
Hill, Mariah
Haslam, Julia
Hard, Alfretta
Kneass, Mrs. Nelson
Lois & Jeannette
Lee, Pauline
Leddell, Carrie
Lynwood, Ada
Loyal, Nyra
Lefering, Belle
Lawrence Sisters
Marshall, Florence
Mrs. Etta (2)
Meodel, Leonie
Mohr, Lu-lu Lamar
Martyne, Mrs. Alice
Morris, Florence Irwin
Maloney, Mrs. Willie
Macarte, Mrs. Josephine
Melville, Mrs. Frank
Marshall, Cora
Mell, Rose
Malcom, Mabel
Mason, Mary Millie (of May's Blondes)
Marshall, Minnie
Newton, Stella
Norwood, Marian Lulu
Oates, Alice
Parker, Mattie
Palmer, Ada (of Gaiety Co.)
Phoenix, Ida
Perley, Josephine
Pixley, Anna
Putnam, Katie
Peterson, Mattie D.
Rose, Emma
Robinson, Mrs. Harry
Reynolds, Victoria
Redmond, Miss Zoe
Rivers, Lena
Rentfrew, Mrs. J.
Richards, Mrs. Pauline
Stanley, Irene
Sisse, Miss M.
Samuels, Rachel
Stetson, Louise
Smith, Mrs. F.
Steen, Mrs. M. E.
Samuels, Miss (of Samuels, Miss & Co.)
Smith, Allie(3)
Sigerson, Miss Rose, Ella
Tannehill, Mrs. Nellie
Tostenborn, Lina
Tiffany, Annie Ward-
Thornton, Ruby
Thayer, Lu-lu E.
VanDortland, Ida
Vose, Carrie
Wells, Minnie
Weaner, Ella (2)
Wilson, Mrs. R.
Walling, Dalsie
Weed, Lillie (of Long Branch Comb.) (2)
Zoel, Marie

GENTLEMENS' LIST.

Anderson, Prof. (Wizard of the North)
Aymar, W. W.
Aubrey, Robt.
Almonte, Geo.
Albion Brothers
Alexander, W. B.
Alfredo, Louis & Emma
Adams, I. B. or J. S.
Ashley, John
Austin, Chas. W.
Atkinson, A.
Barrows, Jas. O.
Barclay, J. Doris
Bell, Harry
Bay, Frank
Barton, J. M.
Brownie, D. R.
Barton, John
Cohan, W. H. (manager)
Bailey, Jas. A.
Bandy, Will
Beasley, (of Wood & Beasley)
Beach, Bobby
Bert, Frank W.
Browne, R. J.
Barnum, P. T.
Brean, Louis
Buckley, E. J.
Beach, Harry
Bean, E. G
Bishop, W. H.
Ball, S. S.
Buckley, Harry
Butler, Frank
Bishop, C. D.
Baer, Louis (dealer)
Bliss, Geo.
Barret, Lawrence
Blitz, Francois R.
Brow, Thos. W.
Blanchard, Harry
Boothby, Dave
Brown, Will T. A.
Bisbee, Frank
Brazzier, R. L.
Bogdanoff, Valdimiro
Blood, R. G.
Burnell, G. B.
Benedict, Lew
Byron, O'Doud
Campbell, Hartley
Carson, Jr., Kit
Clapham, H. J.
Cahill, S. J.
Connolly, Chas.
Cooper, Chas. P.
Cupp, W. C. (3)
Courtney, Arthur
Charlton, Chas.
Colton, M. F.
Claywood, Chas. C.
Coon, C. S.
Callender, Chas. (3)
Chase, Chas.
Cordova, H. (2)
Cahill & Martin (2)
Callender, H. W.
Cooke, Prof. H.
Constantine, Chas.
Clark, Harry D.
Conroy, John F.
Cardello, C. W.
Caldwell, Flynn)
Cooper, Cecil
Cooper & Johnson
Clark & Edwards
Clark, Harry M.
Clifton, Dave
Carew, Fred
Cox, Rodney
Clarke, Kit
Callahan, Jas. H.
Collins, Harry
Collins, O. B.
Dilton, James
Downing, John
Dunbar, E.
Durand, Louis
Dorgan, Tom
Donnelly & Drew (3)
Duffy, E. (of Star Combination)
Donaldson, W. C.
Dalton, Thos.
Davis, Harry
Dickeson, H. A. Sc.
Diggess, J. A.
Diamond, Chas.
Davis, Chas.
Donaldson, Thos.
Edwards & Gaylor (2)
Emmett, Wm. (of Chicago)
Emidy, Rich'd
Edgerly, Landy
Evarts, Harry
Eldridge, Chas. E.
Emmet, J. K.
Ellis, T. C.
Eberle, A.
Everett & Daley
Evans, Prof.
Earley & Evans
Frank, Eddie
Flanagan, Ed.
Frost, Hyatt
Fiske, E. A.
Franklin, F. A.
Fierce, Louis
Forrest, Chas. R.
Frazier, Bob (with Harvey)
Fleury, Fernando (2)
Ferguson, C. J.
Ferris, M.
France, Geo.
Foy, Eddie
French, Chas. H.
Field, A. G. (clown)
Ford & Knowles
Fielding, Harry
Ford, Thos.
Fielding, John (of Pastor's Co.)
Franklin & Marella
Gilbert, John
Gamboa, Geo. Sc.
Gerner, G. W.
Gurr, Harry
Gill, Jos. (of Gill's Goblins)(2)
Gordelle, V. S.
Gullick, James T.
Gorman Bros.
Gilson & Welsh
Goodall, E. E.
Gilbert, Jas. M.
Grunsell, Bennie
Goodyear, H. W.
Gilmore, Billy
Gibson, Frank
Garland, Jos.
Guy Brothers
Gale, Walter
Gaston, Geo.
Gibson & Binney
Hayden, W. R. (2)
Hall, Alf
Harding, Sam
Huber, J.
Horton, H. C.
Hennessey, James
Hopkins, Dan B.
Harmon, Bob
Hicks, C. B.
Hill, Gus (2)
Harris, Geo.
Howard & Coyne (2)
Hyland, W. H.
Hodges, C. (2)
Hutchinson, Geo. (2)
Heywood Bros.
Howorth, John (2)
Hill, Wm. G.
Haight, Andrew
Hines & Blossom
Byers, S. B.
Hallen & Hart
Hayle, Lon
Harrison & Leary
Hasle, Wm.
Hamlin, Paul
Hamilton, Wiley
Hughes, Harry
Hamilton, Sam
Hall, Mills
Herbert Bros.
Hall, Jimmy (of Comique, Kansas City)
Hudson, Andrew
Seymour, O. T.
Salsums, K.
Schwartz, Alonzo
Saxton, M. C.
Strelinski, Harry
Smith, Robt. (p. o. mark Liverpool, Eng.)
Sheldon, Billy
Sheehan & Jones
Smith, Fred F.
Sawyer, A. D.
Samuels, Miss (of Samuels & Co.)
Sellon & Burns
Stephens, D. F.
Sisse, H. J.
Sherry, James
Skelly, J. F.
Stetson, Harry
Sayers, T.
Sherridan, John F.
Shields, John H.
Skinner, Frank
Sells, Louis
Sprots, Geo.
Stephens, Wm. T.
Schilling, Chas.
Scott, W.
Shelton & Roche
Trou, Wm.
Todd, Lew C.
Trudell, Al
Thompson, Sonkey
Templeton, Frank
Tracey, Daniel
Tayleurs, C. W. (2)
Torrance, Jas.
Turner, John M.
Turner, Lew
Till, John
Thompson, Den
Taylor, Daniel
Taylor, Prof. E. C.
Thorn & Darwin
Thompson, L.
Taylor, Thos. (agent)
Tripp, Chas. B.
The Big Four Minstrels
VanAmburgh & Co.
Victorelli, Oscar
Vernon, Harry
Virginia Trio
Vere, Geo. W.
Wagner, Carl (agent)
Wallis, R. W.
Watson, Harry
Whaling, Harry (3)
Wood, Ed.
Wilson, Jos. (of Wilson Bros.)
Wilson, Jos. (of Whipple, Frank & Williams, Chas. J.
Waite, Geo.
White, Fred. (musician)
White, Prof. (of Zallin, ——
Wilson, Joe
Whipple, Frank & Williams, Chas. J.
Waite, Geo.
White, Fred. (musician)
White, Prof. (of Zallin, —— (manager)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[With a view of relieving the pressure upon our regular "Answers to Correspondents" column, we propose to insert here all replies to questions relating to Benefit Arrangements. Such queries as relate to other matters will be answered in our regular columns, and should be written on separate slips of paper from those asking for information concerning amusements. No answer at all will be made, orally, by mail or telegraph, to any question that we may have proposed in these columns, unless accompanied by a stamp. All such will be answered publicly, through our columns.—Ed. CLIPPER.]

☞ QUESTIONS THAT DO NOT REACH THIS OFFICE UNTIL MONDAY MORNING WILL NOT BE ANSWERED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

To Our Authorized Correspondents.—In the future please give all routes ahead or combinations upon separate pieces of paper, instead of embodying them in your letters.

J. V. B., St. Louis.—1. If there is such a company, or if there is such a performer, the fact should appear in either our dramatic or variety columns. 2. It is the same with that manager. There are so many thousands of persons in the amusement profession that the names of but a comparatively few impress themselves upon our memory.

W. H. O., Providence.—1. We are not prepared to say that Charlotte Cushman never played Jane Eyre. 2 Maggie Mitchell has played it for many years, and for several years it was one of her chief attractions. 3. It is not new to her to play it. 4. It was dramatized by John Brougham and by others thirty years ago, and more.

J. W.—We will not take the responsibility of deciding any such bet. It is simply a matter of individual taste or opinion whether one actor or another is the superior in a given role, and we would not think of making use of our opinion or any other person's with the view of deciding people's money.

ZULU TWINS, Hillsboro.—1 Hard practice by one in good health, and of that age, will enable him to play the violin in three months. 2. About thirty dollars a week, is depending somewhat upon the length of the engagement. 3. Southeast corner of the Bowery and Broome street.

A. H. McH., Poughkeepsie.—1. It is quite probable that Alice Harrison at some time in her career between here and San Francisco (topic) may play, but we have never seen her in that character. 2. She has been on the stage nearly twenty years, or since childhood.

F. S., Madison.—It is no easy to get one. You should either advertise or place yourself in communication with one of the amusement agencies that advertise in our columns. The salary varies all the way from twenty-five dollars to seventy-five.

PADDY AND ELLA MURPHY.—James Owen O'Connor of the dramatic profession and of the CLIPPER is one of our contributors. would be obliged to you for a copy of your recitation "The Letter of Death." He can be addressed through this office.

C. E., Chicago.—1. The original surname of the gentleman professionally known as William Emmett was, we believe, Thompson. 2. He is a musician, and he has frequently appeared in the building in the Bowery that was formerly Tony Pastor's Opera-house.

C. R., Erie.—You are not too young to begin. 2 Without knowing your aptitude nor learning, we cannot guess how long it will take you. 3. We have not space to enumerate all the different things you will have to learn.

F. L., Philadelphia.—The J. R. Emmet whom you have the opportunity of seeing at the Walnut-street Theatre is the only one who has been playing Fritz for the past eleven years or so.

F. R., Milwaukee.—1. See the card of Ed. James, who can furnish you with a list. 2. Buy a play for fifteen cents, and write the parts out yourself, since you desire to have a play with the parts written out.

LITTLE BUTTON.—1. It is about eight years since Hartzell and Hart played at Tony Pastor's. 2. About 1866 Edward Eddy was manager of one of the Bush Theatres—Philadelphia, we think.

H. S., Marlboro.—There is no such firm as Cooper & Bailey. Cooper has retired, and Cooper & Bailey is now office to co-operate with P. T. Barnum. Mr. Bailey's address is No. 7 West Fourth street, this city.

Strapper.—The panorama and the building for "The Siege of Paris" were sold at auction in Boston several months ago. The entertainment is no longer in existence, we believe.

L. B., Norwich.—Ghost shows are made to order by Thos. Desmond, 147 Hester street, New York City.

BOB, Springfield.—Harry Meredith is still before the public. He played an engagement in this city a short time ago. Keep watching our amusement columns, and you will soon see his name.

R. E. P., Washington.—Edwin Booth *did* appear in Mobile, Ala., in the course of December, 1867, 1868, 1869, and 1870. He began an engagement at the Mobile Theatre on Dec. 2, 1867, as Hamlet.

INQUIRER.—Princess R. Bliz (Frank E. Harding) was married to Miss A. Louise Boardman of New York by the Rev. C. S. Williams, Assistant Pastor of the Seventh-street M. E. Church, New York City, on Nov. 28, 1879.

J. W. L., Buffalo.—You need not send second letter simply for routes; but should there be any failures to appear or other important matters, then it might be well to write again.

E. D. L.—The letter was dated Galveston, Texas. If you will forward to us a stamped envelope addressed to yourself, we will send you the letter.

J. J. W., Maysville.—On principle, we are not a voucher. Besides, we cannot now say that we have ever before heard of the gentleman.

B. F. C.—We never assume any proprietary interest in plays, and therefore do not wish to see your MS. with a view to purchasing.

G. T. R., Bridgeport.—We cannot say where she is. Why not address a note to Commodore Nutt, care of THE CLIPPER office?

MUSICAL.—1. Master Dunn has been traveling for the season past with a juvenile opera troupe. 2. We have not measured the cornets used by different performers.

W. M., Philadelphia.—Either scan our variety columns for its route, or send the letter to Harry Miner's Theatre, this city.

J. H., New Castle.—The Stoddart who starred as Moneypenny was J. H.

C. W. B., Berger Co.—Ed. James, whose card see, sells French's plays to order.

PROFESSIONAL.—You prefer not to treat of the domestic affairs of professionals.

NO NAME, Utica.—Batcheller & Doris' Great Interocean Shows traveled last season by rail.

S. H. K., Rush.—Address him in care of THE CLIPPER Post-office.

J. C., Paris.—"The Golden Wedding" can be had of Frederick Blume, 861 Broadway, New York. Price, 40c.

A. K., Cincinnati.—A letter addressed care of Steinway Hall will reach him. He is in the city now.

C. E., Chicago.—Lester Wallack is not English by birth. He was born in this city.

D. G. W., Cleveland.—Send your letter for Mary Anderson care of this office.

H. H. C., Newark.—It was in the Burnett House, Cincinnati, that S. M. Hickey was shot.

INTRODUCTORY.

MONDAY, Jan. 10, '81.

The opening week of the New-Year proved to be anything but a cheerful one; snowstorms, and thaws, and a damp and reeking atmosphere, combined with a fearful condition of the streets, many of which culminated in "no thoroughfare" at all, interfering with amusements to such a degree as to create a suspicion that our managers were not enjoying that sweet peace and happiness which their well-wishers and ardent admirers had so fondly hoped for. In fact, the encouraging business of the Fall season, which extended very far into December, various causes arising to knock the prop from under the theatrical boom, and letting it down all of a heap. In this city a few houses have done fairly well, despite the competition of the holiday trade, and up to Friday a day or two of Christmas had been of a very extensive character, but which suddenly collapsed with the big snow-fall that ushered in the festive season, so to speak, and the indications for good business in the future are fair, nothing more. Managers and people will have to keep their shoulders to the wheel if they would snatch success out of the present uncertain state of affairs, and they are showing a disposition so to do; for new plays are in preparation, and rehearsals in which the scenic-artist and the stage-carpenter have prominent parts. It is not surprising that of the numerous combinations which started out full of hope at the opening of the season some of them should retire, finding that success is not convinced that in their case, at least, "hope told a flattering tale." Some come back to reorganize, others to repair damages and save what they can from the wreck, and others again for the purpose of taking a much-needed rest.....The Bernhardt is heaving ahead and working "like a Trojan." She will return to France with a considerable addition to her bank-account, while her manager will complete contracts for future tours with care. Salvini, the other foreigner, is going round the theatrical circle, paralyzing them with his Othello, and satisfying them with his other impersonations; he will be somewhat better off at the end of his tour, but it is hardly possible that his manager will become round-shouldered in carrying home *his* share of the proceeds of the speculation.....We are told that Jo Emmet is losing his voice, and is nearly "cold." We are glad it is nothing more than a cold. We feared it was something worse.....The sunny South didn't agree with Fanny Davenport, and she, too, has returned for the purpose of recuperation, etc. "Am almost afraid to say anything, for fear you never to go again."....."To see the many beautiful women and things to be introduced to public notice in "The Black Venus" we do not believe it will be necessary for the patrons of Haverly's Niblo's Garden to use telescopes.....Some "Deacon Crankett" party is reported to have ceased to be. Even the religious element in its composition was powerless to save.....Look out for fires! This is the season, you know, of the year to look out of that window, Jimmy? "I'm a-looking out for fires." Ah!.....That woman they've got in Bunnell's Museum with hair long enough to sweep the floor is undeniably a curiosity. We don't suppose she ever does sweep the floor with her hair, by the by, because when brooms can be bought for a quarter a piece that would be extremely foolish; but she might if she wanted to. Here is something inspired by

THE LADY WITH LONG HAIR.

No one would dare, we think, to declare
That such a remarkable growth of hair
As adorns the head of this maiden fair
Is other than rare beyond compare.
But, ah! what a constant trouble and care
To keep it free from the tangle snare!
Surely she has her cross to bear,
And but that her hair
Makes her an heiress
Stands her in stead as a salable ware,
For weekly wages and golden pair!
But for this fact she would cheerfully spare
A dozen switches or two, and swear
For once in a while to brush her hair!
However, we hope she'll not despair.
But, when annoyed by the brazen stare
Of the public, think at [where,
And remember that some time she'll surely go
Among other things that are pleasant and rare,
Beyond the reach of mortal pair!
.....Some cranky people have an idea that whistling doesn't amount to anything, and that those who indulge in it are of no manner of use whatever; and we must bear a small bee with a little of the very extent of his abilities as he passes alongside of a graveyard in the darkness of night they call him a nuisance, and say that he ought to be in the churchyard laid instead of being permitted to disturb the midnight repose of ages. Such people are wrong. Whistling is one of the accomplishments of the age, and a boy or a man who cannot whistle can't get a good clearance from school. Why, even fifth-avenue girls whistle like nightingales, and Vassar girls are not to be outdone. Only a few days ago, we heard a young lady in a fifty-thousand-dollar house on Fifth-avenue whistle the entire chromatic scale in three octaves, and never take the chewing-gum out of their inexplicable mouths. Yes; and whistling is going to be popular. Just look around and see the advertisements in this issue, and you will notice that a party desires to secure the services of a whistler for the rest of this season, *as well as for the next!* Why, a dog can hear and understand a good, sound whistle when he can't hear anything else; and, what is more remarkable, that dog goes for the whistler as if he were a piece of tenderloin steak, rare. People make a mistake about whistlers. We once knew a boy — But we digress.....Except for show purposes we cannot see that any benefit is to be derived from a sheep with two heads. In fact, with two mouths the consumption of provender for that animal would be double, with a sheep of only one-month power. We admit that he who causes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before is a benefactor to the human race; but the same cannot be said of the enterprising husbandman who causes two heads to grow on a sheep where one only emanated before. The proper field for the display of such improvements is the tented field of the menagerie and the sideshow, and in that direction our correspondent had better direct his efforts.....'Our Jim" continues his study of Shakespeare. Looking over "King Henry VI" a few days ago, the boy came across this passage: "Then shall my heavy coin, being trodden on." "And who wouldn't?" was the sensible ejaculation of Little Jimmy.....Since Thos. E. Snelbaker advertised in THE CLIPPER the opening of his Cincinnati "Gold Mine," the inquiries from the actress were so numerous as

ERANS, LA., correspondent's letter dated Dec. 26, which did not reach us in season for publication in our past issue, we present this synopsis: "Christmas proved a boniana to the theatrical managers, who for the first time in many weeks were assured that the receipts would largely exceed the expenses. Every theatre threw open its doors and invited theatre-goers to afternoon and evening performances, and so great was the rush that at an early hour each place of amusement was compelled to announce 'Standing-room Only.' At Baldwin's, during the week, Mr. Sheridan has favored us with his conceptions of Othello, Hamlet and Sir Giles Overreach, in all of which he has proved himself to be an actor of rare force and magnetism. For the benefit of Treasurer Charles H. Goodwin, 26, he was to have played Sir Bernard Harleigh in 'Dreams of Delusion' and the fourth act of 'The Merchant of Venice' and 'Richelieu.' [A letter from our correspondent dated 27 gives the following account of it.] Before the first piece was finished the curtain was rung down because Miss Louise Thorndyke, who was cast for Arnadel, refused to come on the stage on account of a personal quarrel with another lady member of the company. Mr. Sheridan then addressed the audience thus:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: There are times when people brought together in a business relationship unfortunately entertain a difference. Such a difference, I am sorry to say, has occurred to-night. A young lady who should appear, Miss Louise Thorndyke, to-day, and I am informed has refused to her dressing-room and declines to come on the stage. I never heard such a piece of childish quarrel; but I must say that, whatever the nature of that quarrel may be, it to me seems no excuse for a forgetfulness of their obligations to the public and a lower never before met with. Under these circumstances the play, of course, cannot proceed, but I am determined that so far as I can help it you shall not have your entertainment seriously disarranged. With your permission I will recite the poem of 'Eugene Aram.' After reciting that poem he gave 'Parthasius' and imitations of two schoolboys reciting pieces. The scenes from the other plays were given without interruption. Mr. Sheridan is to play Richelieu 27, and Louis XI 28 for his benefit and last appearance.....At the Grand Opera-house the play with Miss Emelie Melville in the title-character, has been a success. Miss Louise Lester made her first appearance as the Fairy Queen, and ingratiated herself at once into public favor. She is evidently a much better singer than actress; but as her sweet, strong voice readily pardons the other sins of omission and commission, she will probably improve.....Joe Murphy had crowded houses at the Standard, where 'Shaun Rhue' was the attraction until 24. The burlesque of 'Ixion,' entirely rewritten, and with a multitude of new jokes and local allusions added by Fred Lyster, was presented for the first time Christmas matinee.....The Butterfly's Dream, or the Fairy Ball, was produced in the Grand Opera-house for the first time 24, and, with its army of childish participants, who faithfully and well executed the intricate marches, dances and songs, attracted large and well-pleased audiences. The transformation-scene, by Strauss, was a marvel of scenic beauty and bewildering changes, and met with suitable recognition. A Miss Helen Ellinghouse, who appeared as Titania, has a marvelous voice, and its purity, fullness and sweetness were as unexpected as gratifying. The chorus was good, and the dancing by the Allen Sisters better. The spectacle is announced for a week's production, and, as the proceeds are to be devoted to the Homœopathic Hospital, a liberal attendance will most likely be accorded.....At the California Miss Fanny Louise Buckingham has appeared since the 20th as Mazeppa to poor business.....At the Tivoli 'Cinderella' received its first production 25, and has been produced with a magnificence surpassing any past effort there.....At the Bella Union Miss Emma Abbott and her company have had a fair week's business.....At the Alcazar 'Christmas' proved a bonanza to the theatrical managers, who for the first time in many weeks were assured that the receipts would largely exceed the expenses. Every theatre threw open its doors and invited theatre-goers to afternoon and evening performances, and so great was the rush that at an early hour each place of amusement was compelled to announce 'Standing-room Only.' At Baldwin's, during the week, Mr. Sheridan has favored us with his conceptions of Othello, Hamlet and Sir Giles Overreach, in all of which he has proved himself to be an actor of rare force and magnetism. For the benefit of Treasurer Charles H. Goodwin, 26, he was to have played Sir Bernard Harleigh in 'Dreams of Delusion' and the fourth act of 'The Merchant of Venice' and 'Richelieu.' [A letter from our correspondent dated 27 gives the following account of it.] Before the first piece was finished the curtain was rung down because Miss Louise Thorndyke, who was cast for Arnadel, refused to come on the stage on account of a personal quarrel with another lady member of the company. Mr. Sheridan then addressed the audience thus:

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FROM OUR SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., letter dated Dec. 26, which did not reach us in season for publication in our past issue, we present this synopsis: "Christmas proved a bonanza to the theatrical managers, who for the first time in many weeks were assured that the receipts would largely exceed the expenses. Every theatre threw open its doors and invited theatre-goers to afternoon and evening performances, and so great was the rush that at an early hour each place of amusement was compelled to announce 'Standing-room Only.' At Baldwin's, during the week, Mr. Sheridan has favored us with his conceptions of Othello, Hamlet and Sir Giles Overreach, in all of which he has proved himself to be an actor of rare force and magnetism. For the benefit of Treasurer Charles H. Goodwin, 26, he was to have played Sir Bernard Harleigh in 'Dreams of Delusion' and the fourth act of 'The Merchant of Venice' and 'Richelieu.' [A letter from our correspondent dated 27 gives the following account of it.] Before the first piece was finished the curtain was rung down because Miss Louise Thorndyke, who was cast for Arnadel, refused to come on the stage on account of a personal quarrel with another lady member of the company. Mr. Sheridan then addressed the audience thus:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: There are times when people brought together in a business relationship unfortunately entertain a difference. Such a difference, I am sorry to say, has occurred to-night. A young lady who should appear, Miss Louise Thorndyke, to-day, and I am informed has refused to her dressing-room and declines to come on the stage. I never heard such a piece of childish quarrel; but I must say that, whatever the nature of that quarrel may be, it to me seems no excuse for a forgetfulness of their obligations to the public and a lower never before met with. Under these circumstances the play, of course, cannot proceed, but I am determined that so far as I can help it you shall not have your entertainment seriously disarranged. With your permission I will recite the poem of 'Eugene Aram.' After reciting that poem he gave 'Parthasius' and imitations of two schoolboys reciting pieces. The scenes from the other plays were given without interruption. Mr. Sheridan is to play Richelieu 27, and Louis XI 28 for his benefit and last appearance.....At the Grand Opera-house the play with Miss Emelie Melville in the title-character, has been a success. Miss Louise Lester made her first appearance as the Fairy Queen, and ingratiated herself at once into public favor. She is evidently a much better singer than actress; but as her sweet, strong voice readily pardons the other sins of omission and commission, she will probably improve.....Joe Murphy had crowded houses at the Standard, where 'Shaun Rhue' was the attraction until 24. The burlesque of 'Ixion,' entirely rewritten, and with a multitude of new jokes and local allusions added by Fred Lyster, was presented for the first time Christmas matinee.....The Butterfly's Dream, or the Fairy Ball, was produced in the Grand Opera-house for the first time 24, and, with its army of childish participants, who faithfully and well executed the intricate marches, dances and songs, attracted large and well-pleased audiences. The transformation-scene, by Strauss, was a marvel of scenic beauty and bewildering changes, and met with suitable recognition. A Miss Helen Ellinghouse, who appeared as Titania, has a marvelous voice, and its purity, fullness and sweetness were as unexpected as gratifying. The chorus was good, and the dancing by the Allen Sisters better. The spectacle is announced for a week's production, and, as the proceeds are to be devoted to the Homœopathic Hospital, a liberal attendance will most likely be accorded.....At the California Miss Fanny Louise Buckingham has appeared since the 20th as Mazeppa to poor business.....At the Tivoli 'Cinderella' received its first production 25, and has been produced with a magnificence surpassing any past effort there.....At the Bella Union Miss Emma Abbott and her company have had a fair week's business.....At the Alcazar 'Christmas'

HAVERLY'S FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.
J. HAVERLY.....Proprietor and Manager
MONDAY EVENING, SIX NIGHTS AND MATINEE,
FREDERICK PAULDING,
FREDERICK PAULDING,
in his new and immense spectacular drama of
SALVIANI, OR THE SILENT MAN.
SALVIANI, OR THE SILENT MAN,
written by Wm. Seymour.
MONDAY, JAN. 17, EMMA ABBOTT. 43-1t

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—THE RUB BE GUN EVERY EVENING DURING THE WEEK, with MATINEES WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS at 2. Wondrous spectacular production of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. Immense cast. Every scene new. 300 colored people. ADMISSION, FIFTY CENTS. Orchestra Stalls, $1.50; Orchestra Circle, $1; Front Balcony, $1; Front Dress Circle, 75 cents. FAMILY CIRCLE, 25 CENTS. 43-1t

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Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street.
POOLE & DONNELLY.....Lessees and Managers
Reserved Seats (Orchestra Circle and Balcony), 50c.
MR. GUS WILLIAMS
in his hilarious character
OUR GERMAN SENATOR,
OUR GERMAN SENATOR,
IN THREE ACTS AND A TELEPHONE.
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Evening at 8. Matinees Wednesday and Saturday.
LAST WEEK OF
SALSBURY'S TROUBADOURS.
LAST WEEK OF
THE BROOK.
New and original novelties from Europe.
Shown at Real Work.
Jan. 17 first appearance this season of
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Fourth and Last Week of the Tragedian
BARRETT
IN "YORICK'S LOVE."
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MONDAY, Jan. 17, production of C. DUFF'S version of the recent London musical success
"OLIVETTE." 43-1t
with new scenes, gorgeous costumes, and a perfect cast.

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BROADWAY AND 33D STREET.
WM. HENDERSON.....Proprietor and Manager
LAST NIGHTS OF
Bartley Campbell's romantic love story
MY GERALDINE.
MONDAY, JAN. 17, 1881, THE NEW SOCIETY PLAY
BIGAMY.
By Rutie Henderson and Fannie Aylmer Mathews.
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Every evening at 8.30. Saturday Matinee at 2.

HAZEL KIRKE.			HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.	12TH NIGHT.		HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.			HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.	12TH MONTH.		HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.			HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.	12TH MONTH.		HAZEL KIRKE.
HAZEL KIRKE.			HAZEL KIRKE.

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POSITIVELY LAST SIX NIGHTS OF
MEDDLES AND PINS.
MEDDLES AND PINS.
MEDDLES AND PINS.
Positively last matinee Wednesday and Saturday.
TUESDAY NIGHT, Jan. 18, first production of ZANINA, or THE ROVER OF CAMBAVE,
ZANINA, or THE ROVER OF CAMBAVE,
with the Nautch Dancers and Hindoo Jugglers. 43-1t

TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE,
587 BROADWAY.
LAST WEEK LAST WEEK
OF THE INTENSELY FUNNY PLAY
PASTOR'S EVENING PARTY.
PASTOR'S EVENING PARTY,
OR FUN AMONG THE ACTORS.
Entirely Reconstructed and Improved
NEW CAST, NEW SONGS, NEW FUN.
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One of the Most Interesting Shows of the Season.
The Jolly Three, FRANK MCNISH and LELAND SISTERS
The Virginia Trio, TURNER, WELSH and HARRIS.
BENNETT and GARDINER, HALLEN and WATERN,
COMEDY DUO, MUSICAL ARTIST,
MCAVOY and ROGERS, LESTER and WILLIAMS,
SKETCH ARTISTS, WITH A PUNCH, Etc.
MAJOR BURKE, FRENCH TWIN SISTERS,
DAN COLLYER, MORGAN and MULLEN.
MATINEES TUESDAY AND FRIDAY. 43-1t

BIRCH & BACKUS'
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
First appearance of the eccentric Comedian Mr. HARRY G. RICHMOND in his specialties. The Great Canine Instructor PROF. PARKER and his Wonderful Mastodon DOG-CIRCUS.
Great success of Frank Dumont's new piece
A HOT NIGHT IN THE CITY,
with new scenery, representing Brooklyn Heights and New York. Seats secured. Matinee Saturday at 2. 43-1t

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HARRIGAN & HART.....Proprietors
JOHN E. CANNON.....Manager
MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 10, and during the week
MESSRS. HARRIGAN & HART
respectfully announce the production of Mr. Edward Harrigan's new comic play entitled
VOLUME V. OF THE MULLIGAN-GUARD SERIES,
THE MULLIGAN GUARD'S NOMINEE.
THE MULLIGAN GUARD'S NOMINEE
Mr. EDWARD HARRIGAN as.....MULLIGAN
Mr. TONY HART as.....MRS. REBECCA ALLUP
Fresh and sparkling music, composed expressly for the play by the popular director and composer, Mr. Dave Braham. New and elaborate scenery by Mr. Chas. W. Witham. Novel mechanical effects by Mr. Robert Cutler. THE SKIDMORE GUARD will muster and parade in new and beautiful uniforms.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. 43-1t

BERRY'S BROADWAY THEATRE,
Broadway and Fourth street, Louisville, Ky. Every evening at eight. Matinees Tuesdays and Saturdays, at two. Wanted, Variety Talent and Sensational Stars at all times. Address BERRY & SELBY, Louisville, Ky. 43-1t*

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CLOSED MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

BLACK VENUS.

WILL POSITIVELY OPEN
43-1t ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 12TH.

VOLKS'
VARIETY AND NOVELTY THEATRE,
190, 201 BOWERY.
MRS. PAUL FALK.....Sole Proprietress
MATINEES THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.
Grand Vocal and Instrumental Concert Every Sunday Evening. 29-1t-tf

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No one should miss going, at least once.
Admission, 50c. Orchestra, 25c. extra. Children, half-price. Doors open at 1 and 7. 42-tf

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in the Only Original Copyrighted Dramatization of
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to crowded houses. Wanted, a Good Leading Man.
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ONE FOR IRISH BALLADS AND ONE FOR SERIO-COMIC SONGS. Both must dance and play in the farces. Long engagement.
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A DOUBLE-BASS PLAYER
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MUST BE GOOD BALL-ROOM PROMPTER
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Dickenson's Grand-opera Chairs, 13 Scenes, 10 Dressing-rooms, Gas, Hot-air, and all modern conveniences. Seats 930, and is near all Connective. Address
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JOHN and LOUIS,
the long and short of it, and Maude Leigh, vocalist, have been re-engaged for Boylston Museum, Boston, where they have made the hit of the season. 43-1t

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"Our Old Family Bible," Rutledge's latest. Two of the most beautiful songs ever written. 2,000 copies sold; 40c. each; $4 per dozen. Professional copies to managers with orchestral parts FREE. For sale by the Ditsons, Pond, Gordon, Brainard, Church and all music-houses. Published by
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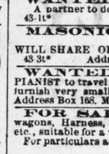

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
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MR. CHAS. R. GARDINER'S COMPANY,
CALLED
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Any manager using my name in connection with said party will be held responsible.
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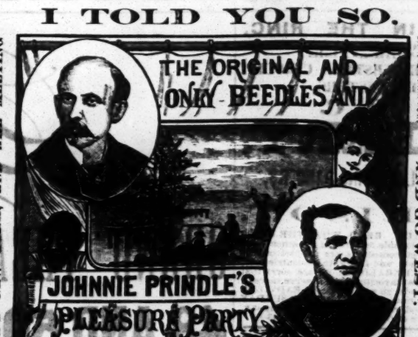

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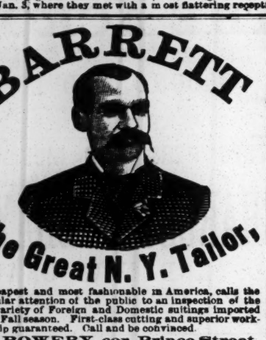

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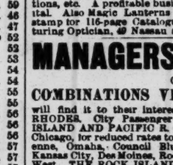

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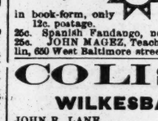

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